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Ugandan Addresses Information Ministers Conference

EA3009101090 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] The minister of information and broadcasting, Mr. Kintu Musoke, has called on the Third Conference of Information Ministers of Nonaligned Countries to implement the resolutions and declarations so far taken by all conferences of ministers of information of nonaligned countries. Mr. Kintu Musoke told the conference now going on in Havana, Cuba, that Uganda, after 20 years of political turmoil, was now in a position to implement some of the long-standing resolutions and recommendations of conferences of information ministers of nonaligned countries.

The minister asked the members to ensure a national balance in the flow of information between the rural masses, urban elites, and governments while the call for a balanced flow of information between developed and under-developed countries continues. He noted that the continued monopoly by developed nations over communication constitutes a serious danger to the people and is a major cause of dissidence in developing countries. He suggested that in a bid to stem the imbalance in the flow of information, nonaligned countries should seriously cooperate with one another and strengthen their national and regional news agencies.

The minister strongly condemned the vehement use of disinformation by apartheid South Africa against the frontline states and the [word indistinct] aggression of Cuba by the United States. However, he noted with satisfaction that Cuba has acquired an appropriate technology to block this aggression and has also offered to share the technology with members who might find themselves in similar circumstances.

Meeting of Nonaligned Information Ministers Ends

FL2909153090 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] The Third Conference of Nonaligned Movement Information Ministers [Cominac 3] was held at the Havana Convention Center from 24 to 28 September and chaired by Cuba. The delegations from the 88 countries attending agreed to closer cooperation in the area of information and communications. Rather than enumerating the points of the informational imbalance between the North and the South, the search for a consensus about the subjects discussed was the major aim of this third conference of information ministers.

[Begin recording] [Carlos Aldana, secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee] I think the results of Cominac 3, expressed in the important agreements and statements contained in the final declaration, amply fulfill all our expectations. However, we heard the most relevant [word indistinct] mentioned before. This is precisely the human, direct relationship and the evidence—above and beyond the distinctions, specific characteristics, and differences between us—of the fundamental things dictated by history and realities that identify us, unite us, make us brothers, and that prevail over the contradictions and even the paradoxes of history. [end recording]

The final document presented by Cuba as the host country, as is usual at this type of meeting, was enriched and approved according to the rules of the Movement with a spirit of consensus. This third conference of information ministers, held at a very distinct moment of the international situation, has reaffirmed that the unity of the Third World is essential to achieve changes in cooperation and the struggle for decolonization in the field of information.

But the dramatic economic situation of the Third World has a very strong impact on these (?proposals). The information ministers meeting here in Havana agreed that there is no alternative but to struggle in this task of historic proportions.

'Group of Three' Leaders Discuss Cooperation

PA0110204390 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0100 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] In addition to attending the world summit for children, President Gaviria reached an agreement with the Mexican and Venezuelan presidents. From now on, the Group of Three, or the G-3, will be more aggressive in the international market.

Alvaro Velez tells us about it from New York:

[Begin Velez recording] Within the framework of the G-3 meeting, Colombian President Cesar Gaviria, Mexican President Carlos Salinas, and Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez took advantage of the UN event to reiterate their governments' decisions.

They asked for a room to hold a news conference so that they could tell the world media that they will again take the necessary measures to promote cooperation and integration among the Latin American and Caribbean countries based on their political and cultural affinity, their geographical location, and their economic situation.

They said that they will cooperate with one another within the energy group that the three countries comprise. They said that they will combine oil, coal, and hydraulic resources. To do this, they said that they will first conduct a study and then negotiate a credit with the Inter-American Development Bank.

They added that they will increase trade among the three countries and that they are very worried about the standstill of the GATT and its discriminatory actions.

The G-3 meeting concluded by placing an emphasis on the word cooperation, a cooperation that is needed to improve the standard of living of the area and change its weak image. [end recording]

Cuba

Malmierca on Need for Diplomatic Effort in Gulf

FL2809124090 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Cuba described as hasty the UN Security Council's decisions about the Persian Gulf because they multiply the risk of a military confrontation without first exhausting all diplomatic efforts. No nation has the right to set itself up as a judge to decide when these efforts have been exhausted, Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca said to the UN General Assembly, in explaining the Cuban position.

He added that for our country, there is no reasonable alternative to a political, negotiated solution to the Gulf conflict that does not include the restoration of Kuwait's sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity and at the same time the withdrawal of the foreign troops deployed in the region. Malmierca refuted the argument that the only effective way to achieve the departure of Iraqi troops from Kuwait is through the use of arms, and in this regard stated that the fatalistic tendency that has prevailed in the Security Council cannot be accepted.

Castro Offers Support for UN Plan for Children

FL2909174590 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, president of the Cuban Councils of State and Ministers, has sent a message to the United Nations on the occasion of the beginning of the world summit on children today. In his letter, the top leader of the Cuban Revolution praises the initiative to unite efforts in favor of children, and offers the experience and scientific achievements of Cuba's specialists to put the world action plan in favor of children into practice in whatever countries may request it.

U.S. Criticized for Not Helping World's Children

FL0110183290 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Station commentary]

[Text] Two-hundred children in the world will have died of treatable diseases, malnutrition, and abandonment during the time this "Antenna One" newscast has been on the air; 1,000 die every hour; 40,000 every day. Fourteen million of those children will die before the end of the century because of the unfair distribution of wealth. These are the realities of the world in which we live, one of poor and rich countries, the North and the South, where the philosophy of deprivation is the powerful scourge that takes every day a path of [word indistinct].

The recently-concluded New York summit for children, organized by the United Nations and attended by over 70 chiefs of state, approved a plan of action that was signed formally and rhetorically by all. The U.S. President himself, George Bush, ratified the dramatic statistics as he welcomed the participants.

However, during the time the U.S. President stood behind the UN podium, his administration invested that day—with his blessing—$40 million for the war in the Persian Gulf; $40 million a day. Experts estimate that one trillion dollars will be spent before the end of 1990 if the conflict continues. Not practicing what one preaches appears to be Bush's philosophy when he condemns the lack of protection for children and, at the same time, approves millions of dollars for the war.

According to UNICEF, with five percent of what the world spends in war alone, thousands of children's lives could be saved and this infant mortality that shames the human race could be eliminated. For Third World countries suffocated by the foreign debt and economic difficulties, these realities are more acute every day. The huge inequalities and the unfairness of trade do not leave room for rhetoric and demand the most vital action.

With the recorded death of each child that dies of hunger in this world every day, there is a problem that we must solve.

Castro Holds Reception for Information Ministers

FL2809125790 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, president of the Councils of State and Ministers, held a reception last night at the Palace of the Revolution for the delegations that are participating in the third meeting of information ministers from the Nonaligned Movement countries. Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers; Culture Minister Armando Hart; Carlos Aldana, head of the Cuban delegation to the event; and other Cuban officials attended the reception. Ambassadors from the Movement's member countries were also present.

Castro Speaks at Blas Roca Anniversary Ceremony

FL0210024090 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, presided over the main event marking the third anniversary of the founding of the Blas Roca Calderio Contingent. On a road to the Bayate II Dam in Candelaria, Pinar del Rio, where the celebration took place, Fidel awarded banners to 14 brigades of the Blas Roca Calderio Contingent and other Pinar del Rio groups which are carrying out various tasks in construction and agriculture in Havana, Havana City, and Pinar del Rio Provinces.

The head of the Cuban Revolution awarded certificates and medals to six outstanding members of the contingent, which completed three years of selfless work on 1

October. Fidel Ramos, first party secretary in Pinar del Rio, and contingent head Candido Palmero also spoke at the ceremony. In summing up the celebration, Fidel stressed the international prestige [words indistinct].

[Begin Castro recording] Another time other representatives came from a factory that makes the trucks we have here, and they asked how many hours of working life the trucks had, and they admitted that here in our country these trucks had an effective working life more than twice as long as the life those same trucks have in their country. So what you have been able to do has been recognized internationally, and is admired internationally. [end recording]

In pointing out the Blas Roca Calderio Contingent's work results, the commander in chief said:

[Begin Castro recording] I have followed this experience closely, I have followed this work closely, and I think it is one of the best things that has been done in this country during the rectification process. We are showing what socialism can do. We are showing what communism can really do. And everyone will see in those 605 caballerias, they will see that this can only be done with socialist agriculture.

All these plans for dams and large canals, plot drainage for sugarcane, the engineering system for rice, large areas of plantain with microjet [irrigation]—this can only be done with socialist agriculture. If you divided that into 700 little farms of one hectare of plantains, you can imagine bringing water to 700 different places.

You can imagine the processing of those plantains, because they would have to be loaded onto a truck to be taken to a processing center. Here they are not loaded onto anything. Here the branches are cut and hung on what (?you have seen), the aerial belt. The plantains do not lie on anything. They do not have to be transported on carts or trucks, with the aerial belt. With the (?surface belt) they have to be carried for a short distance, in a cart that takes them through some streets. The plantains are not damaged at all; they are not spoiled in the least. When they arrive at the processing plant the bunches are cut off and put in water. Then they box them, and the fruit is not damaged at all.

This productivity, and work of this kind that is so productive, is only possible with socialist agriculture. And the same can be said about sugarcane, rice, and the vast majority of crops. Only socialist agriculture makes it possible to build a system of dams and canals and irrigation as the country is doing. [end recording]

Dear viewers, this ceremony marking the third anniversary of the founding of the Blas Roca Contingent will be broadcast on Tuesday at 2100 hours [0100 GMT] on Cubavision.

Radio Program Addresses PCC Religion Policy

FL0110192390

[Editorial Report] Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish at 2330 GMT on 29 September carries live as part of its "Exclusivo" program, a 30-minute feature called "In Their Own Words" hosted by Lazaro Barredo, deputy secretary general of the Union of Cuban Journalists, UPEC. Reception is good. Guests are Eloisa Miranda, described as an "expert in religious matters;" Walfredo Pineda, a "specialist in movies from the University of Havana, and a lay Catholic;" and Jose Aurelio Paz Jimenez, president of the UPEC in Ciego de Avila, and a "Baptist from one of the organizations of the Cuban Ecumenical Council."

Barredo notes by way of an introduction that the leaders of the Communist Party of Cuba, PCC, and of the "Cuban Revolution" have issued an important list of topics for public discussion, one of which is party policy toward "believers," the subject of this program.

Barredo and Miranda both emphasize from the outset that party policy toward religion has not changed. Barredo says: "The philosophy of the revolution, throughout its history—and this can be seen on many occasions—has never been to put revolutionary and religious thinking into opposition with each other, but rather, to respect religious thinking." He adds that if there has been any discrimination against believers, it was perhaps due to some people's interpretation of certain dogma—their mistaken belief that revolution and religion are incompatible.

Miranda expands on this, saying: "Society is not divided into believers and nonbelievers, but into classes: the exploited versus the exploiters; the oppressors versus the oppressed." She adds that when socialism was chosen as the people's option, "no one was asked what religious belief he held or did not hold." She says this has been stated PCC policy from the First PCC Congress onward, although she admits that "although we had Fidel's original thinking, and a policy conceived without even a minimal vestige of discrimination, in practice, there was some distance between the political discourse and discriminatory acts that were committed that we have to rectify."

Barredo states that it is to the party's credit that it has now decided to "resolutely face up to this divorce."

For their part, Pineda and Paz Jimenez indicate that they have had no trouble reconciling their religious beliefs with the precepts of the revolution. Pineda says that the revolution's "search for social justice is inherent to the Christian concept, to the gospel." Paz Jimenez agrees that ignorance caused the "difference between actual practice and the principles that the revolution had upheld from the beginning." Asked what difference exists between him and a Marxist revolutionary, Paz Jimenez says: "None." He adds: "I am a part of this society, an element of it, and I have to act as such."

In closing, Barredo notes the complexity of the subject, and says that it will be discussed further next Saturday.

5-Year Agreement Signed With Soviet Scientists

PA2909222790 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 27 Sep 90

["What the Press Has To Say" segment by Alberto Perez]

[Text] Seven research projects will be developed by Cuban and Soviet scientists, according to a five-year agreement recently signed in Moscow by high-ranking representatives from Soviet and Cuban scientific institutions. The agreement calls for building joint laboratories and forming binational trade companies to take advantage of the scientific potential of the two nations in the search for solutions to problems in the fields of medicine, biotechnology, plant physiology, geology, and laser techniques.

According to the Soviet TASS press dispatch, published today in Havana, the signatories of the agreement stated the wish of their respective institutions to continue strengthening scientific cooperation.

FAR Decorates Soviet Military Specialists

FL0210014590 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2337 GMT 1 Oct 90

[From the "Exclusivo" program]

[Text] On the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the beginning of Cuban-Soviet military cooperation today, Soviet specialists who had been outstanding in that work were decorated by the Revolutionary Armed Forces [FAR]. The ceremony was presided over by Division General Julio Casas [Regueiro], first vice minister of the FAR, and was attended by other FAR generals, chiefs, and officers, as well as a delegation of Soviet military specialists and advisors.

Jorge Risquet Meets With Chinese Delegation

FL2809115090 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1111 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Report by Roberto Canela on the "Haciendo Radio" program]

[Text] Jorge Risquet Valdes, member of the Politburo and secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, has expressed his satisfaction with the level of relations reached with the CPC and he called for further strengthening of these ties.

During a meeting he held with the visiting delegation of CPC officials, headed by Gu Yunfei, permanent deputy secretary of the CPC Work Committee, Risquet said that Cuba is concerned about a series of recent international events that have occurred and it particularly warns against the euphoria and arrogance of the imperialists. He also briefed the delegation on the difficult situation Cuba is confronting in the economic sphere due to the difficulties arising from the brusque reduction of its trade and economic exchanges.

On behalf of his delegation, Gu Yunfei expressed his satisfaction with being in Cuba. He also expressed his admiration for the notable progress made in several areas and the CPC's complete confidence in the superiority of socialism as a system.

Soto, PRC Ambassador Comment on Ties

FL2809135890 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1212 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Report on statements by Lionel Soto, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba and vice president of the Cuban Council of Ministers, and PRC Ambassador to Cuba Chen Jiuchang in Havana on 27 September] txt

[Text] China has had great success in the construction of socialism, and like us, has learned from trial and error, Lionel Soto, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba and vice president of the Cuban Council of Ministers, said yesterday at a ceremony held here in Havana to mark the 41st anniversary of the founding of the PRC and 30th anniversary of the establishment of relations between the PRC and Cuba. At another point in his speech, Soto reviewed the history of relations between the two countries and the course those relations have taken to the present.

[Begin Soto recording] Over the years, relations between Cuba and China have gone through various stages, but their peoples have always been linked by their common interest in promoting friendship and mutual respect. In the past few years, there has been an accelerated development and strengthening of those links, the strategic and historic importance of which is valued and emphasized by both countries.

The respective communist parties, states, and governments of Cuba and China are firmly determined to make those relations more dynamic and significant. It is enough to note, for example, that Cuba is already China's third largest trading partner in Latin America-...[corrects himself], the second largest, China's second largest partner in this regard. Moreover, new programs for economic and scientific-technological cooperation are being promoted in our country.

The two countries' points of political agreement regarding the major problems of today's world are increasing. One of the main such points of agreement is their common determination to defend socialism under the direction of the respective communist parties and to maintain firm opposition to hegemonic imperialist interference in the internal affairs of other countries. [end recording]

For his part, PRC Ambassador to Cuba Chen Jiuchang [name as heard] gave a speech in which he mentioned the historic ties of friendship between Cuba and China.

[Begin Chen recording, in Mandarin with superimposed translation into Spanish] Cuba was the first Latin American country to establish diplomatic relations with the new China after it was founded. In the past few years, thanks to the joint efforts of both countries' leaders, the relations between Cuba and China have entered a new phase of integrated development. There are fluid links between the two parties, governments, and assemblies, as well as between mass organizations, such as labor, youth, and women's organizations. There has been a rapid growth in bilateral trade. [end recording]

Risquet Meets With Libyan Delegation

FL2909125590 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] International press agencies have reported that the high-ranking Libyan delegation headed by (Musad Kosa), assistant secretary of the People's Office of Communication with Abroad of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, met with Politburo member Jorge Risquet Valdes at the Central Committee offices. During the fraternal meeting, there was a wide-ranging exchange of opinions on various subjects concerning the current international situation, particularly the Persian Gulf crisis.

The broad awareness in the provisions expressed was also noted with satisfaction. (Musad Kosa) stressed the exemplary role Cuba is playing as a member of the UN Security Council. Given the prevailing complex international situation and the serious dangers and challenges threatening both countries, the need to strengthen the ties of friendship, cooperation, and joint effort to work together to defend the interests of Third World countries was repeated.

Sugar Agreement Signed With Libya

FL2809131090 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Cuban Foreign Trade Minister Ricardo Cabrisas has met with his Libyan counterpart Farhat Saled [name as heard]. The Libyan economy and foreign trade minister heads his country's delegation to the sessions of the Eighth Joint Intergovernmental Commission. An agreement on supplying sugar to Libya from 1991 to 1995 was signed during the talks. Both sides also came out in favor of an increase in bilateral ties and trade.

'Letter of Understanding' Signed With Iran

LD2909201190 Tehran IRNA in English 1753 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Havana, Sept. 29, IRNA—Iran and Cuba signed a letter of understanding on cultural, educational, and tourism cooperation here today, giving room from mass media collaboration as well.

The letter was signed between Iranian Minister of Guidance and Islamic Culture Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammad Khatami and Cuban Minister of Culture Armando Hart Davalos. Hoj. Khatami is here to attend the Third Conference of Ministers of Information of Non-aligned countries (Cominac-3) which ended its work on Friday night.

During his stay here, Khatami held talks with Cuban President Fidel Castro, Minister of Foreign affairs Isidoro Malmierca and other Cuban officials.

Expansion of wide-ranging ties between Tehran and Havana was the main axis of the talks.

Risquet Meets With Afghan Information Minister

FL0210005590 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2315 GMT 1 Oct 90

[From the "Exclusivo" program]

[Text] Afghan Minister of Information and Culture Bashir Ahmad Roygar met today with Politburo member Jorge Risquet Valdes at the offices of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba. The Afghan minister stressed the profound impression made on him by hearing about the revolution's work and confirming the calmness and firmness with which the Cuban people are facing the growing economic difficulties caused by the imperialist blockade and the debacle of the socialist bloc.

The Afghan minister mentioned the great efforts being made by his people to end the war in his country, and pointed out the danger posed by the Persian Gulf crisis and the urgent need to find a negotiated solution that will prevent a war of unforeseeable consequences for the entire world from breaking out.

Bilateral relations between Cuba and Afghanistan were described by both sides as ones of friendship and solidarity. Finally, the Afghan minister expressed thanks for Cuba's cooperation in the field of medicine and the magnificent work by the internationalist brigade that is working in Kabul.

Third Stage of Withdrawal From Angola Complete

FL0110123190 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] The third stage of the Cuban withdrawal plan from Angola has been completed with the return to the fatherland of 38,000 combatants. In line with the joint agreements signed between Cuba and Angola in New York on 22 December 1988, 874 combatants were withdrawn in the month of September. In this way, the number of combatants who have returned to our country up to the end of September amount to 38,000. In accordance with the agreements signed, the entire personnel withdrawal process has been monitored by the UN Verification Mission for the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola.

*** New Satellite Ground Station Opened**

90CA123A Havana TRABAJADORES in Spanish 11 Aug 90 p 5

[Text] Havana, 10 August (AIN)—Today communications minister Manuel Castillo Rabassa opened the ground station for transmission via satellite that will make it possible to establish international communication, through Rome, between the largest of the Antilles islands and some 140 countries on all continents.

The project executed by the Cuban Ministry of Communications with the Italian International Communications Company (ITALCABLE) consists of a PABX type telephone exchange through which 190 lines routed together with the INTELSAT satellite enter.

This station, similar to the one opened in Varadero last July, consists of 24 international channels. They enable connection with 180 trunk lines to provide service through direct automatic dialing to embassies, business firms, and tourist facilities.

The entire computer-controlled system also has a parabolic antenna 4.5 meters in diameter, and the container holding all the equipment is approximately eight meters long by three meters wide.

Leaving the modern technology in operation, Castillo Rabassa expressed his satisfaction with the good work performed by the Cuban and Italian technicians who made it possible to put the project in operation. It will be expanded with other portable ground stations in Cayo Largo, Holguin, and Santiago de Cuba.

Ernesto Pascale, ITALCABLE's general administrator, stressed that nothing and no one could take the place of this cooperation, because it constitutes a symbol of friendship between Cuba and Italy.

During the opening ceremony, the establishment of a telephone line between some of the officials in attendance with Miguel Perez, Cuba's charge d'affaires in Italy, represented a particularly significant event. It demonstrated the effectiveness and promptness of the Italo-Cuban system.

*** Provincial Supplies Inspection Explained**

90CA0123B Havana TRABAJADORES in Spanish 14 Aug 90 p 4

[Text] The checking of the control of basic supplies, resources in warehouses, and the status of fundamental tasks prior to devising cost systems being carried out by CEF [State Committee for Finance] throughout the country is growing in depth and scope.

In Villa Clara, one of the provinces inspected, the efficiency and quality in payment operations were evaluated, both when the latter was conducted at the purchaser's initiative, and in instances where the seller collected.

As everyone knows, this aspect is extremely important in the completion of the control cycle, because shortcomings in operations of this type make it possible to steal resources from warehouses, even when they are very well controlled.

Thus, 658 payment operations were analyzed, of which 654 were received on faith and these matched the supplier's invoice and the corresponding payment order.

In the four that did not match, however, the payment order was adjusted in all instances to real prices for products actually received. This attests to the skill that is being acquired in this direction.

Nevertheless, nothing is said about where the products that caused the detected inconsistencies ended up. This is really important during these times, and not so much because of the monetary value that it represents.

I believe that controls in this case should have the purpose of detecting those responsible, and demanding accountability, so that stealing in this manner is eliminated.

Other aspects attesting to the seriousness of these checks are analyses made by CEF inspectors in Villa Clara of basic supplies to be installed and stored. They were showing as being surpluses in some entities, with a total value amounting to 9.5 million pesos.

It was also discovered that the immobility index for resources in the warehouses checked reached a level of 19.2 percent in the territory.

These matters must be subjected to a detailed analysis, owing to their economic implications at the present time, when it is essential that no resource nor supply be stored without being used. The reason is that they might be needed somewhere else, where they may be lacking, thus artificially exacerbating any objective shortage of supplies that may occur.

All that remains to be added is that the inspection in Santa Clara brought results rated as good.

Of 714 tasks preceding the devising of the cost systems, 78 percent were completed, which is equivalent to 509; and 122 were in the process, compared with only 33 not yet begun.

In the area of basic supplies, of 135 entities checked only two were rated as poor, four were disqualified, and 10 were rated fair; giving an 88 percent rating.

As for the 262 warehouses inspected without notice, 257 had established the system, with a high 98.1 percent rating.

These results, along with those accrued in the other five provinces checked, demonstrate that, in areas so essential for achieving rational, optimal use of resources nationwide, progress is unquestionably being made.

Bahamas

New Cabinet Ministers To Be Sworn in 28 Sep

FL2809180090 Nassau Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Excerpt] Two new Cabinet ministers are to be sworn in this afternoon. The ceremony is scheduled for 4 o'clock [2000 GMT] at Government House. Lawyers Mr. Vincent Peet and Marvin Pinder will be sworn in by Acting Governor General His Excellency Sir Henry Taylor. They are the Members of Parliament [MP's] for the constituencies of South Beach and Malcolm Creek respectively. Mr. Peet will take over the Ministry of Consumer Affairs as of October 1 succeeding Dr. The Honorable Bernard Nottage who goes to the Ministry of Education; while Mr. Marvin Pinder will be responsible for the new Ministry of Local Government. Both men were elected to Parliament for the first time in the 1987 general elections. [passage omitted]

Dominican Republic

* Economist Faults Economic Solidarity Pact

90CA0126C Santo Domingo EL NACIONAL in Spanish 25 Aug 90 p 9

[Text] Santiago—Economist Julio Santana warns that the strictly fiscal, monetary, and exchange measures promoted by the government through the Economic Solidarity Pact do not affect the essence of the Dominican socioeconomic problem.

The university researcher explains that, in general, these measures are extremely vague, in each instance leaving considerable leeway for subsequent manipulation of economic policy, with a social content and scope that are unpredictable at present.

Julio Santana claims that, as in 1983, the crisis has been defined in strictly financial terms.

This means that problems such as the fiscal deficit, monetary expansion, and a supposedly overvalued exchange rate, are erroneously given top priority, neglecting the structural factors associated with the inflexibility of the productive system.

However, he also cites the unjust distribution of income, the concentration of property, and the perpetuation of one of the most archaic and unjust land ownership systems in Latin America.

Julio Santana, a researcher at the Pontifical Mother and Teacher Catholic University, assumes that these and other problems are at the bottom of the inflationary process, though factors related to the poor management of economic policy, which tend to be cyclical factors, have had and continue to have an accelerating effect on the crisis.

He thinks that, for this reason, the crisis has become exacerbated to its final critical point.

He recommends an attack on inflation, not only on the demand side, as is being done now, using fiscal, exchange, and monetary instruments with disastrous effects, out also on the supply side. He suggests devising a program of structural reforms geared to the present Dominican reality, that would guarantee a blending of the short and medium term objectives with a long term strategy.

Julio Santana thinks that the price increases ordered by the government and the subsequent "freezing" of prices of some 10 products will multiply the profits of producers, merchants, and speculators of all types.

He goes on to say that the price freeze, so greatly anticipated by the citizens, was a genuine fiasco. Prices were not frozen, but rather, the increases that had been applied up till that very date, 7 August, by merchants and producers were recognized.

He notes that all the prices in the economic system have shot up excessively, "on their own."

He observes that after the government's 90-day "freeze" further hikes, implicitly recognized in the "pact agreements," are to be expected.

He claims that the reason is, first, because the foreign exchange refund system has been revived, with a periodically changeable rate; and, second, "because the policy on prices of products with sizable imported components should be based on the international reality, translated into domestic prices through the exchange rate in effect at a given time."

He gave a reminder that everything produced in this country has a "sizable imported component," both directly and indirectly; and when it does not, the producers act as if their products did have it.

* 'Chaotic' Situation Within CDE Denounced

90CA0126D Santo Domingo EL NACIONAL in Spanish 29 Aug 90 p 9

[Text] Today the Trade Union of the Dominican Power Corporation [SITRACODE] claimed that a chaotic situation prevails in the companies, causing drastic reductions in revenues, which have fallen below half a million pesos per day.

Ignacio Soto, SITRACODE's secretary general, asserted that revenues have dropped in CDE [Dominican Electricity Corporation] because the administration has removed all personnel from the business offices by force.

He also maintained that over 9,000 failures have occurred in the electrical systems, with no one to repair them, because all the linemen remain in the SITRACODE locales throughout the country.

The SITRACODE secretary general reiterated that, in order to create the impression that the union is to blame for CDE's blackouts and troubles, the power has been taken away from the industrial and residential sectors and provided to the urban districts.

Soto remarked that the series of blackouts is now so intense that industrial and business sectors have been calling SITRACODE to warn that they can no longer tolerate the situation, suggesting that a rapid solution be sought for the conflict.

He noted that the blackouts have intensified in towns in the interior and industrial sectors, even though Falconbridge is contributing 90,000 kw. It had previously been supplying only between 10,000 and 15,000 per day.

Meanwhile, the hundreds of workers and employees who have been left outside their job sites in CDE's different areas remain in the SITRACODE locale.

Workers go early to the union site on Mauricio Baez Street, near the corner of Juan Erazo, and return to their homes at night.

Haiti

CEP Announces Official Election Timetable

FL2809121690 Port-au-Prince Radio Haiti-Inter in Creole 2000 GMT 26 Sep 90

["1990 Election Calendar" issued by the Provisional Electoral Council]

[Excerpt] The Provisional Electoral Council [CEP] has published the official electoral calendar:

5 Oct-26 Oct—period for voter registration

30 Oct-5 Nov—period for challenging registration

30 Nov—renewal of stolen, lost, or defaced registration cards

5 Dec—review of voter registration lists

Calendar for presidential candidates:

6 Oct-16 Oct—registration for presidential candidates

19 Oct—last day to challenge presidential candidates

23 Oct—last day for candidate withdrawal

24 Oct—issuing of receipts

26 Oct—certificate of deposit of candidacy without challenge

29 Oct—final day for CEP decision on challenges to candidacy

6 Nov—CEP approval of candidacy

7 Nov-14 Dec—election campaign period

16 Dec—first round of elections

The CEP has not mentioned anything about the Army's suggestion that was made at a meeting in Gonaives. The Army asked that elections first be held in the provinces on 16 December and then later in Port-au-Prince. This is because the Army does not have adequate resources to protect themselves from attacks by Zenglendos. The CEP does not seem to have taken into account this suggestion. [passage omitted]

Politicians React

FL2809190090 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Excerpts] First reactions from the political sector since publication of the electoral calendar indicate satisfaction, though not much enthusiasm. [passage omitted].

Jean Claude Roy, president of the Union of Haitian Constitutionalists, says it is out of the question to hold elections under Mrs. Trouillot's government, which he terms illegitimate. He also believes the timing will have a catastrophic effect on business because of its proximity to the Christmas shopping season, crucial for Port-au-Prince's economy. But in spite of protests from the business sector, he hopes they will understand that there was no other alternative, and that it will be necessary to sacrifice private interests for the well-being of the country. The test, beginning December 5, will be important, Mr. Roy believes, but he does not think that the people will turn out to vote in large numbers.

He deplores the fact that since Carter's visit, candidates who had previously been refusing to accept elections under the current government, are now acquiescing. This he feels is the combined result of lack of neutrality from Trouillot's government, American interference, and the Army's complacency. [passage omitted]

Mr. Arnold Antonin, from the Nationalistic and Progressive Revolutionary Party of Haiti, was very satisfied with the publication of the new electoral calendar. It was necessary to publish the calendar as soon as possible because there is not much time for the political parties to conduct a campaign. As to timing of the elections, Mr. Antonin is also asking the business sector to sacrifice its interests. [passage omitted]

The electoral date is one thing, but what about the ability to vote in an atmosphere free of fear and insecurity, asks the president of the National Agricultural and Industrial Party, Mr. Louis Dejoie, who will nevertheless register for elections. [passage omitted] Mr. Dejoie explains that he will reserve the right to instruct his electorate on how and when to go to the polling places if there is not a propitious atmosphere at that time.

Second in command of the National Congress of Democratic Movements, Mr. Jean Claude Bajeux, states that time is running out, and that a general mobilization is necessary to move the country out of the gutter. [passage omitted]

According to Mr. Evans Paul of the Confederation for Democratic Unity, the electoral date is acceptable even though the security problems still exist. [passage omitted] The people expect a gesture of good will from the government and reassurances from the public sector so they will feel safe to vote. Mr. Paul feels that if necessary, the Army could participate with the people by organizing, among other alternatives, district committees to provide security. The deadline is short, and Mr. Paul believes it is necessary to kill two birds with one stone: replace Mrs. Trouillot, and elect a representative government.

Final reaction is from Gregoire Eugene who, after having severely criticized the electoral law, later announced his intention to participate in the elections. [passage omitted]

Trouillot Replaces Foreign, Public Works Minister

FL0110192790 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Last night, the provisional president of Haiti, Mrs. Ertha Pascal Trouillot, replaced the resigning Minister of Foreign Affairs Alex Toussaint, and Minister of Public Works, Transportation and Communication Jean-Pierre Moise Pierre-Louis.

The new minister of foreign affairs, Christian Paul Latortue, currently works in the private sector, but has held a number of public posts during the sixties and seventies. After the downfall of the Duvalier regime in 1986, Mr. Latortue served as director of the Haitian tourism office in Montreal, owns the now closed Zaragua Hotel, located near Port-au-Prince, and is married to a Canadian woman from Quebec. He is the brother of Christian Latortue, assistant minister in the Ministry of International Affairs of the Province of Quebec.

Mr. Pierre Foucault, now in charge of the Public Works Office, is an engineer who has spent most of his career at this ministry.

It is uncertain whether these two ministers actually resigned or were simply replaced by Mrs. Ertha Pascal Trouillot. The five ministers who resigned on August 25 had announced political disagreement with their executive as their reason for leaving, but there has been no such announcement this time. Alec Toussaint was minister of foreign affairs for only a month, while Jean Moise Pierre-Louis had been the subject of severe criticism from the opposition over his style of management.

Lafontant Denounces Carter Activities

FL2809160090 Port-au-Prince LE MATIN in French No. 30.032 26 Sep 90 pp 1,6

["Text" of a letter to Jimmy Carter from Dr. Roger Lafontant, former Duvalier deputy, in response to criticism by Mr. Carter of Lafontant's return to Haiti; date of letter not given; all capitalization as published]

[Text] I am not looking for a new homeland because I am living on the land my ancestors bequeathed to me; a free, sovereign and untainted land. Besides, if I had need of a homeland, it is quite certain that it would not be this little negro, Haiti Thomas, [Thomas is a kind of last name sometimes added to Haiti for emphasis] on whom you would choose to bestow such a "distinguished honour."

Mr. Carter, you can hardly imagine the wrath and indignation your statements have provoked, from one end of this country to the other. Nobody speaks of smears, immaturity, or blunder because the personage himself has defined them so clearly that neither Lettre, Larousse nor Petit Robert [French dictionaries] could do any better.

Mr. Carter, what then is your gospel? It is not the one of human rights, is it, to which you dreamed of converting the world? Your untimely intervention only serves to terrorize, manipulate, and brainwash, thereby creating and reinforcing division, which enables an oligarchy to violate the rights of the people, even those who are a majority. This appears anachronistic to us, and contrary to democracy. Mr. Carter, your interference actually contributes to the violation of human rights and individual liberty.

Your maneuvers allow Conzes [Conze is a proper name referring to a famous betrayer in Haitian history and is sometimes used to mean betrayer] to destabilize the leadership of the middle classes, dividing, and thereby eliminating them. This behavior is really unworthy of a former president of the United States of America. I assure you, Mr. Carter, we do not intend to give our country away. This country is OURS, and it hopes to be worthy of its ancestors, who wrote one of the finest pages in the history of the world with their blood, and under fire. Fortunately for the American people and their government, Bush is showing tact, cleverness, shrewdness, and perspicacity in his approaches.

You denounced the proud, dynamic population of Gonaives, the city of our independence, because it freely expressed its support for Dr. Roger Lafontant, the leader of National Reconciliation; you disdained our national sovereignty and, as an outsider, decided that Dr. Roger Lafontant should not run as candidate for an elective function. You passed judgment without appeal and quoted an article of the Constitution of 1987. What a sadness!

Certainly the Constitution serves as a guide for everything. Yet Mr. Carter is hardly phased when the Provisional Electoral Council [CEP], which was chosen in contempt of constitutional prescriptions, and is made up of people guilty of electoral and financial frauds, behaves as a court. It is a pity to see that Mr. Carter, either through contempt or ignorance, does not understand that only the Haitian people can choose its mandators, and that it will not accept the dictates of any alleged

universal songster of human rights. The absolute aim of true democracy is respect for popular sovereignty.

Mr. Carter, the courageous population of Gonaives told you: "We are poor, but this poverty does not authorize anyone to trample our dignity underfoot, to stamp out our pride, our aspirations and our rights to be free, to enjoy peace, and to achieve national reconciliation."

So, Mr. Carter, you will not impose your wishes on Gonaives and on our poor country, so bruised, so misunderstood, yet so ready to fight for its rights. There is just one path that can lead the country to true democracy: national reconciliation.

Mr. Carter arbitrarily, and in violation of the Constitution, had requested asylum from Venezuela on behalf of Dr. Roger Lafontant. Venezuela has responded favorably to this request. There is reportedly also a plan (with the help of commando) [as published] to seize Dr. Roger Lafontant. Thus, the friends, the relatives, the partisans, and the authentic Haitians will know against whom to lodge complaints in case of.... Anyway, Mr. Carter needs to know that Dr. Roger Lafontant is not frightened of anyone and that he will not be sacrificed at the altar of any commander.

As a true Haitian who wishes to remain so, I am reiterating my steadfast decision to continue my life in my native country among my own people and to execute my civic prerogatives under the REGIME and with RESPECT for the laws of my country. I have never given up the choice to work in LEGALITY and NON-VIOLENCE, in the Cult of Difference [and in the cult of] Triumph of Peace, Justice and Democracy. Patriotically, Dr. Roger Lafontant Leader of National Reconciliation.

Zenglendo Attacks Reported in Port-au-Prince

FL0110135590 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Excerpts] At around 1900 last night, four armed men in a government vehicle used by the Third Party Vehicles Insurance Office, shot at Lieutenant Luce Elie on Delmas Road. Lt. Elie, who is quartered in the National Palace, was buying lottery tickets in a Chez Toto Bank when these individuals came up from behind, shot him down, took his wallet, and fled.

These same men sent a burst of gunfire into a group of young men who were talking together on Lalue [John Brown Avenue]. [passage omitted]. One died and one is wounded as a result of the terrorism in the capital last night. This is the third such death this week.

On Tuesday, 25 September, in the Christ Roi area, Zenglendos shot Adjutant Paul Jean. Like Lt Elie, Adj. Paul Jean had been quartered in the National Palace. Rodriguet Bonheur, a pawnshop owner in Laraque Street, was shot to death when a group of Zenglendos entered his home and robbed him this week.

Jamaica

Government Names Nonresident Ambassador to Cuba

FL2809130890 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] The Jamaican Government has named Peter Black as its nonresident ambassador to Cuba. Mr. Black is a career diplomat whose previous postings include the cities of Moscow, Paris, and Bonn. Diplomatic relations between Cuba and Jamaica were reestablished earlier this year.

Chilean Embassy Established in Country

FL0110190190 Bridgetown CANA in English 1842 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Oct 1, CANA—Chile has decided to establish an embassy here to be headed by newly accredited ambassador to Jamaica Jaime Jana, the government news agency JAMPRESS reported. Chile and Jamaica established diplomatic relations in 1963 but ties between the two countries became strained after the Chilean military under General Augusto Pinochet seized power in a 1973 coup. An elected civilian government, headed by President Patricio Aylwin, assumed office earlier this year, bringing an end to military rule.

St. Martin

France Appoints Customs Officers To Fight Drugs

FL2809221890 Bridgetown CANA in English 2137 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Marigot, St. Martin, Sept 28, CANA—France has appointed seven customs officers in this French dependency to fight drug trafficking, money laundering and an increase in gangsterism, a top customs official has disclosed.

Director general of customs and indirect taxes, Jean Dominique Comolli, said the customs officers have been given sweeping powers to investigate financial transactions and check people, boats and cars.

Comolli told a meeting of residents and local government officials that the presence of the officers would in no way affect the "freedom of customs beneficial to St. Martin." He stressed that the officers would not wear uniforms.

The decision was made by the administration in Paris following a three-month investigation of the French Caribbean area. Comolli said that report indicates that the area has become increasingly attractive to drug traffickers and money launderers. Comolli added that French President Francois Mitterand took the action in the wake of an agreement reached with the United States and the European Community to battle the scourge of drugs and related money laundering.

French St. Martin Mayor Albert Fleming who opposes the stationing of customs officers here called for watertight guarantees that the country's historical rights will not be infringed. Fleming said he is not opposing the fight against drugs and money laundering but wants legal guarantees against abuses.

Trinidad and Tobago

Robinson, Perez Hold Discussions in Caracas

FL0110161090 Bridgetown CANA in English 1514 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] Port of Spain, Trinidad, Sept 30, CANA—Trinidad and Tobago's Prime Minister A.N.R. Robinson has been given a clean bill of health by doctors in Venezuela following a series of medical examinations, according to press reports here.

Doctors at the Hospital de Clinicas de Caracas said Robinson had made "remarkable recovery" from injuries suffered during the late July coup attempt by members of the Jamaat-al-Muslimeen. Robinson, who visited Caracas last week, was shot in the leg during the coup attempt in which he and other parliamentarians were held hostage inside the Parliament buildings.

During his visit, Robinson held discussions with Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez and the two leaders took the opportunity to discuss a range of bilateral, regional, and international issues. Robinson was accompanied by his wife, daughter, and his personal physician Dr. Winston Ince.

Steel Workers Begin 'Indefinite Strike'

FL2909163090 Bridgetown CANA in English 2151 GMT 28 Sep 90

Port of Spain, Trinidad, Sept 28, CANA—More than 600 workers at Caribbean ISPAT Limited have began an indefinite strike, shutting down the operations of the Indonesian-administered steel company, officials confirmed on Friday. The workers are protesting the breakdown in negotiations over a new wage agreement.

ISPAT said that 60 percent of the workforce participated in the industrial action Thursday over demands for a wage increase of 10.77 percent. The Steel Workers Union of Trinidad and Tobago has accused the company of reneging on its 1989 agreement for a 10.77 percent wage increase over a three-year period. Both parties have been meeting with officials of the Ministry of Labour here since February in an effort to settle the issue.

El Salvador

Cristiani Assesses U.S. Trip, Military Aid

PA3009191790 Paris AFP in Spanish 0649 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Washington, 27 Sep (AFP)—Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani has concluded his four-day visit to Washington satisfied that he was successful in convincing the U.S. Government and Congress that military aid to his country would be used as "a clear message" to "achieve peace and not to prolong the war." During a news conference, he said that U.S. Vice President Dan Quayle thinks "it is a good idea" to use such aid to send a "very clear message (to the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] guerrillas) that the conflict cannot continue in the country."

According to Quayle—Cristiani explained—"the U.S. Administration is going to try to sway (the Congress) so that the aid is used for peace and is made contingent upon a cease-fire." Cristiani, who accepted a "retention" or "freeze," under certain conditions, of part of the military aid (estimated at $83 million for fiscal year 1991), said that he was pleased with the results of his activities in Washington on the matter of "placing conditions," and insisted that such aid is necessary "to strengthen democracy, so that the guerrillas do not fight a weakened government and take power through armed struggle."

"We did not come to ask for conditions, but to ask that those conditions be sufficiently explicit regarding a cease-fire and support for the peace process in El Salvador," he flatly stated. Over the past 10 years, the United States has given El Salvador approximately $4.5 billion in overall aid, including $1 billion in military aid. Last June, the U.S. House of Representatives approved $85 million in military aid to El Salvador, but included an amendment that makes 50 percent of that sum contingent upon achieving certain progress in the peace talks with the guerrillas and an expeditious investigation into the murders of six Jesuit priests that took place last November in San Salvador.

The U.S. Senate must adopt in three weeks a much more precise decision on the matter, which, according to a congressional poll, would be similar to the decision made by the lower chamber, although it would have an appreciable variation as far as the percentage to be retained is concerned. In addition, Cristiani noted that his government is willing to conduct "restructuring" based on "quantitative and qualitative" reforms in his country's Armed Forces, but clearly stated that the topic is not negotiable with the guerrillas and that the dismantling of the Army "is not negotiable."

The FMLN recently proposed in San Jose, Costa Rica, a new struggle platform, based on a "democratic revolution," which includes the definite "dismantling of the Army" in El Salvador.

Says Peace Not Obtainable With Rifles

PA0110234390 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2210 GMT 01 Oct 90

[Text] New York, 1 Oct (DPA)—Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani said today at the 45th UN General Assembly that peace in his country "will not come from the muzzle of a rifle" and proposed a unilateral [as received] cease-fire with the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front].

After regretting that the FMLN had withdrawn from the peace talks last year to launch a violent offensive, Cristiani said that "we have not come here to complain about what has already happened, but rather to explain the positive things that have taken place."

He said that he highly values the verification of the UN peace process.

Cristiani asserted that, "the model of verification that we have proposed and agreed upon to definitively end this conflict is unprecedented."

He advocated moderation, rejecting past extremes. He said, "in democracy only the moderates advance, and the best proof of moderation is respect for the law."

Cristiani said that there is no reason for war in El Salvador. He said that he had specifically urged the FMLN to join in mutual flexibility and understanding at the peace talks.

Cristiani said that the government is willing to declare a cease-fire, to come into force as soon as the FMLN adopts the same decision, to then proceed with the talks.

He said that this would be "a temporary measure of goodwill and not an attempt to buy time in the war."

Referring to the agreement on human rights signed with the FMLN in San Jose, Cristiani said that it went into effect immediately and that his government is ready to receive the UN verification committee at any time.

Zablah Urges FMLN To Stop Acts of Sabotage

PA2909180790 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1200 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Economy Minister Jose Arturo Zablah has urged the guerrillas to cease acts of sabotage against the country's national energy network to avoid a collapse of the energy system, given the hike in the international price of crude oil resulting from the Persian Gulf crisis.

Zablah also urged the general public to conserve fuel and energy to alleviate the increase in the price of petroleum byproduct imports.

We are experiencing a difficult situation, and we are very concerned, therefore, we urge the rebels to stop acts of sabotage against the national energy system, Zablah told the press. He added that the price of a barrel of oil was set today at $34.85.

The Lempa River Hydroelectric Executive Commission (CEL), the state energy company, uses 450,000 barrels of crude oil per month to operate emergency plants, because the rebels frequently down utility poles.

CEL President Sigfredo Ochoa Perez, a retired colonel, has stated that the CEL spends $32,000 for each utility pole that the rebels blow up.

Every day, when the rebels attack the energy network, the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] forces us to use hydrocarbons. The rebels should be flexible and stop the acts of sabotage, Ochoa Perez concluded.

Army Press Chief Says FMLN Offensive Expected

PA0110231890 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2121 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] San Salvador, 1 Oct (NOTIMEX)—The Salvadoran Armed Forces are expecting a new military offensive by the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) within the next few weeks, according to an Army spokesman.

Major Mauricio Chavez Caceres, chief of the Army Press Office, said today, "we are expecting an FMLN offensive against military targets at the conclusion of the talks in the U.S. Senate concerning military aid to El Salvador."

The U.S. Senate will vote within the next few days on legislation already approved by the lower house, which reduces by half the $85 million in military aid allotted to the Salvadoran Government for the coming fiscal year.

Chavez Caceres said that, since June, the guerrillas have been preparing an offensive similar to that carried out in November 1989, with the intention of "influencing" the Senate negotiations.

He blamed the FMLN for stalling the dialogue process which, after five rounds, has failed to achieve any progress on the central issues of the agenda.

Chavez Caceres also said that a faction of the FMLN has turned radical. This group is led by Joaquin Villalobos, one of the five top guerrilla commanders, and is supported by rebel leaders in the interior of the country.

"It is very likely that Villalobos held meetings with the FMLN commanders over the past two months and that from those meetings emerged the document that he presented at the last round of talks, thereby ending all possibility of an agreement," Chavez Caceres said.

The political opposition and Salvadoran human rights organizations are meanwhile advocating an end to U.S. military aid, which they have described as a hindrance to peace and democracy in El Salvador.

According to Eduardo Calles, a National Democratic Union (UDN) leader, cutting military aid would favor the peace process initiated in May between the conflicting sides under UN auspices.

Over the past decade, the U.S. Administration has given $4.5 billion to the Salvadoran Government, which, according to most democratic deputies, has served to heighten the war and increase human rights violations.

Maria Julio Hernandez, the human rights director of the Catholic Church, has told the press that aid to the Salvadoran Army has intensified the military conflict, which over the past decade has claimed almost 70,000 victims.

FMLN Awaits Government Reply to Debate Offer

PA2909193690 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Communique issued by the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front in El Salvador on 28 September]

[Text] 1. The Cristiani government to date has not issued an official reply to the FMLN proposal presented to Justice Minister Oscar Santamaria during the fifth round of negotiations in San Jose, Costa Rica. The proposal called for the holding of a debate broadcast by radio and television.

2. The FMLN reiterates this serious, logical, and fundamental proposal so that the country can hear the possible options for a political solution to the conflict. It is contradictory that Cristiani promises democracy while in the United States, but here in our country, he rejects the debate of ideas, which is a basic component of any democratic process.

3. The debate we are proposing is not a substitute for the negotiating table nor does it harm commitment to maintain confidentiality [in the negotiations]. If the country's future is at stake, the country must know who manipulates and who uses the positions of both sides for propaganda purposes. The government, which says it is in the right, should not be afraid of a democratic recourse, which is customary in any part of the world.

4. We continue to await an official reply to our proposal for a public debate broadcast via satellite from any of the countries that have offered to provide facilities for an event that would open the way for a democratic debate different from the sound of rifles.

Bishop Says Journalists Killed by Criminals

PA0110163390 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1200 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] Gregorio Rosa Chavez, auxiliary bishop of San Salvador, condemned the criminal attack on two Salvadoran journalists a few hours after Pastor Ridruejo, special rapporteur of the UN Human Rights Commission, arrived in the country to learn of the human rights situation. The director of the magazine SEMANA, Pedro Martinez, 28; and photographer Jorge Euzeda, 38, were killed by criminals on Friday. Rosa Chavez said this during his homily delivered at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart in the Salvadoran capital.

According to the preliminary police reports, both journalists were killed Friday afternoon in a traffic accident on the Pan-American Highway in the central department of San Vicente. The Legal Assistance office of the Archbishopric of San Salvador performed an autopsy on Martinez' body. The autopsy revealed that Martinez had lead shrapnel in his left eye, lacerations on various parts of the body and head, multiple skull fractures, and several broken ribs. According to the forensic report, Euzeda, who also worked for the evening newspaper EL MUNDO, had multiple skull fractures.

The journalists traveled last Friday to Morazan to report on the repatriates in the city of Seguro Montes, the name of one of the Jesuit priests killed last 16 November allegedly by members of the Armed Forces. The autopsy of Martinez' body reveals that it was a criminal attack; the shrapnel in the eye is strong proof. This crime must be investigated in depth. It must not become one more confusing event, Rosa Chavez said. He said that Ridruejo will arrive in this country, where violence is the path chosen by those who do not want peace. Ridruejo will begin meeting today with the Catholic Church and humanitarian and labor organizations, which will brief him on the human rights situation in El Salvador.

The special UN human rights rapporteur will meet Wednesday with government and Armed Forces representatives, according to the official Human Rights commission. Rosa Chavez said that the Legal Assistance Office of the Archbishopric, which defends the respect for human rights, will present Ridruejo with a report on the alleged killing of five reporters that took place during the guerrilla offensive last November. Thus far, the bodies of the five reporters who worked for the National Information Center have not been found. It is presumed that they were killed during the guerrilla occupation of the exclusive Escalon neighborhood.

Rebel Station Blames D'Aubuisson

PA0110213590 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1949 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] San Salvador, 1 Oct (NOTIMEX)—The Salvadoran guerrillas today blamed Roberto D'Aubuisson, leader of the ruling Nationalist Republican Alliance [Arena], for the deaths of two journalists in the central part of the country on 29 September.

The rebels declared on Radio Farabundo Marti that the deaths of Pedro Martinez and Jorge Euzeda, which according to the Legal Assistance Office of the Archbishopric "were provoked," was the "direct responsibility" of former Major D'Aubuission.

"Behind the face of Cristiani and La Tandona [reference to the 1966 graduating class of the Gerardo Barrios Military Academy], D'Aubuisson, Arena president for life, is perpetrating these crimes against our society," the station reported.

The station added that "it is not by chance that the police have reported as an accident" the death of the two journalists, on whose bodies autopsies were later performed to determine that "there was a criminal hand" in the incident.

After demanding that an exhaustive investigation be carried out, the clandestine radio station called on the Salvadoran Journalists Association "not to give in and to always report the truth to the people."

The guerrillas also reported that the military maneuver carried out in Cabanas Department yesterday, which inflicted 40 casualties on the Army, "is dedicated to the two journalists assassinated by Alfredo Cristiani's dictatorship."

Guatemala

Cerezo Views Energy Consumption, Devine Case

PA2909230790 Guatemala City EL GRAFICO in Spanish 27 Sep 90 p 5

[Text] President Vinicio Cerezo said—during a brief meeting with reporters in the protocol room of the Air Force on 26 September—that the proposal made by the minister of energy and mines to reduce the consumption of fuel is not drastic.

Cerezo said that his proposal could be considered a reasonable one from which the community can begin to save energy. He asserted that the current price of petroleum is extremely high.

The president added that when the government stated it was going to control the price of fuel, it was assuming that the price would not go over $28 per barrel. Currently, the price is over $35 and near the $40 per barrel level.

Cerezo stressed that the measures Guatemala adopted were the right ones. The president said it had been a wise choice to wait and see if the price of fuel would level off. He stressed that fuel prices did not need to be increased right now.

Cerezo added, however, that the continued excess consumption of fuel could have a negative impact.

The president said that the Guatemalans should accept the fact that during a crisis every one has to limit their use of energy to ensure the continued growth of the country overall.

Turning to another subject, Cerezo referred to the case of soldiers linked to the death of U.S. citizen Richard Devine. Cerezo said three arrest warrants were out, but gave no more details because it could affect the case.

Devine's Suspected Murderers Identified

PA0110204290 Guatemala City EL GRAFICO in Spanish 26 Sep 90 p 3

[Report by Ricardo Gatica Trejo]

[Text] Warrants have been issued for the arrest of four soldiers who were identified as being responsible for the murder of U.S. businessman Michael Devine.

The warrants were issued on the morning of 25 September, and the police were ordered to arrest the four soldiers who were allegedly responsible for the murder. The suspects are: Rafael Tiul, Pablo Cucul, Pablo Lajuj and Carlos Zelada [names as published]. They were on active duty at the "Kaibiles school" in Poptun, in Peten Department.

The National Police have said they know nothing of the arrest warrants. They said that, if they exist, they will be dealt with in the proper manner—just like in any other case—and action will be taken against whomever the court has indicted.

But, if this is a case in which the suspects are members of the Army, then the provost marshal should know about the warrant, as well as the police. Then that military organization can have the National Defense General Staff proceed with the arrests.

The four soldiers implicated in the murder of U.S. businessman Michael Devine belong to a special unit of counterintelligence troops of the Guatemalan Army, who were at the "Kaibil" School in Poptun, in Peten, at the time the crime took place.

Our reporter managed to find out that the four Army members involved in this case were on duty with the unit known as the Counterintelligence Detachment, DCI, and at the time of the murder they had been assigned to the "Kaibil" School.

The DCI is a unit under the National Defense General Staff. Its personnel remain at specific posts for 60 to 90 days, after which they are moved to another zone, especially to the so-called "conflict" areas.

The four men connected with the Devine case could presently be on duty in "Playa Grande" in El Quiche, Huehuetenango or San Marcos, where they were sent after leaving Poptun.

Colonel Mario Garcia Catalan, who was the commanding officer of Peten, with headquarters in Santa Elena, was removed from his post. Colonel Francisco Ortega was commissioned in his place and Catalan was sent to a less important job with the Army.

Editorial Views URNG Peace Proposal

PA0110204590 Guatemala City EL GRAFICO in Spanish 26 Sep 90 p 9

[Unattributed editorial: "The Surprising Peace Proposal of the URNG"]

[Text] Contrary to all expectations, the URNG [Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity] Command told clergymen yesterday, with whom it is meeting in Quito, Ecuador, that as part of the great national dialogue promoted by the National Reconciliation Commission and in keeping with the Esquipulas II agreements, it is willing to accept a bilateral cease-fire and a suspension of offensive military operations if 10 conditions are fulfilled. Of all the groups that have met with the URNG so far, these clergymen have received the clearest and most specific proposal. These 10 points, which constitute only a short stretch on the long road that must still be traveled, will facilitate new contacts. They touch core issues, however, which will bring about discussions and stalemates similar to those affecting the peace dialogue in El Salvador.

The URNG Command, much like the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front of El Salvador, proposes the demobilization of the country; the reorganization and eventual elimination of police and intelligence groups in the country; and the abolishment of decrees that were issued by the most recent de facto military government, including the declaration of amnesty and impunity for political crimes committed under the military government that led us to a "dirty war." The URNG states that the terms for the cease-fire must be discussed during high level talks with the Army. A path to do this was opened by Guatemalan Foreign Minister Ariel Rivera yesterday when he admitted during a speech before the 45th UN General Assembly that there is an armed internal conflict in Guatemala. This had been systematically denied until now by claiming that there are actually "armed terrorist groups," or more misleading, that "hardly anybody" is involved in this.

The URNG Command acknowledges that "at present and for the time being, there are exceptional conditions and possibilities for reaching a peaceful solution to the situation in Guatemala after 30 years of insurgency." In fact, there are not only domestic conditions such as the existence of a democratic government and an ongoing electoral process, but also external conditions such as a thawing of the East-West cold war, perestroyka in the USSR, and a democratic government in Nicaragua. This will be no easy process, because the democratic structure must still be adjusted and consolidated, respect for human rights must be improved, and the destitution and social injustice that have prevailed in the past 400 years must be overcome. There is, however, a small ray of hope; all good Guatemalans are called to help open the doors to peace.

Clergymen on Results of URNG-Government Talks

PA2909010290 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0955 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Quito, 27 Sep (EFE)—Guatemalan clergymen of different denominations have publicly voiced, in a document called the Quito Declaration, their support for the Guatemalan process of reconciliation through that country's National Consensus and Social Pact. Four guerrilla commanders, six delegates of the National Reconciliation Commission (CNR), and 16 clergymen from different churches concluded a three-day closed door meeting during which they issued the Quito Declaration.

In the declaration, the church representatives expressed satisfaction with the results of the meetings held in Oslo, San Lorenzo de El Escorial (Spain), and Ottowa. They called on all Guatemalan sectors to join the efforts to find solutions through the National Consensus and Social Pact. They also expressed hope that subsequent meetings will be successful and smoothen the way for the start of direct talks between the government and the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity (URNG), which represents the country's four rebel groups.

URNG acknowledged the effort undertaken by the different religious organizations to foster an awarenesss that encourages the search for peaceful solutions. It emphasized the need for a follow-up on the peace proposals it has submitted in all the previous meetings.

During a news conference, Msgr. Rodolfo Quezada, the meeting moderator and CNR chairman, announced that the next meeting will be held in Mexico. He said that it will be held possibly on 22 October, with the participation of delegates from mass organizations and human rights groups. At the end of the meeting, Mario Aleman, secretary general of the Ecuardoran Foreign Ministry, expressed the wish of his government and people for Guatemala to attain peace and national reconciliation. UN observer Francesco Vendrell said that the talks in Ecuador will pave the way for talks to be held in the future among the URNG, the government, and the Army.

URNG, CNR, and church representatives met with Ecuadorean President Rodrigo Borja in a special meeting held at the Presidency.

New Finance Minister, Bank President Sworn In

PA2709172390 Guatemala City SIGLO VEINTIUNO in Spanish 26 Sep 90 p 3

[Excerpt] On 25 September Carlos Diaz-Duran Olivero, secretary general of the Presidency, swore in the new minister of finance, Marciano Castillo, and the new president of the Bank of Guatemala, Oscar Humberto Pineda Robles, who replaces Lizardo Sosa.

The press was not allowed to view the swearing-in of the new finance minister at the Finance Ministry, but it was able to attend the swearing-in of Oscar Humberto Pineda Robles. Pineda took over during the regular work session of the Monetary Board, of which he became the chairman on 25 September. [passage omitted]

* Reportage on Human Rights

* Abuses Increasing

90CA1032A Guatemala City EL GRAFICO in Spanish 28 Aug 90 p 3

[Text] 27 Aug (DPA). The Human Rights Commission of Guatemala today reported 94 cases of extrajudicial executions during May and June of this year. In addition, the representative of the German churches which are providing assistance to Guatemala, Franz Ganzmann, today said that violence in Guatemala has increased, which he has observed during his visits to the interior of Guatemala.

The report from the Human Rights Commission indicates that in addition to these extrajudicial executions (murders allegedly committed by death squads), 41 cases have been reported of persons who have disppeared, and there have been other cases of threats and assaults, illegal arrests, and abuses of authority.

The German church representative, Ganzmann, stated on Guatemalan television (Teleprensa) that the increase in violence in Guatemala is reaching the same levels as during the 1980's, when terror was rampant in various parts of Guatemala.

He added that upon his return to Germany, he will make a full report on the Guatemalan situation, so that the religious groups which are providing assistance to Guatemala may determine whether or not they will continue to give aid.

* 99 Murders in Two Months

90CA0132B Guatemala City SIGLO VEINTIUNO in Spanish 27 Aug 90 p 3

[Text] The Human Rights Commission has begun investigations of 99 cases of "extrajudicial executions" known to have taken place in Guatemala in May and June, reported the newsletter of the Commission, directed by Ramiro de Leon Carpio.

During that period, the Commission's Registry Department began investigations of 254 cases which were brought to its attention. Of these cases, 146 [sic] were of "an ordinary nature" (complaints filed in person, in writing or by telephone), while the remaining 10 cases were based on official third-party accounts, either news items reported by the press or police reports.

According to its statistics, the Commission has determined that during this two month period of 1990, it learned of 99 cases of extrajudicial executions, victims of acts of violence, both in the capital and in the interior of Guatemala.

In May and June, it also received 41 reports related to disappearances and/or kidnappings, of both adults and minors, many of whom are still classified as missing by the Legislative commission.

The official report further states that it handled 15 acts classified as "threats and assaults." It has also taken appropriate action with security organization officials concerning 53 complaints of "abuses of authority."

Finally, the Commission indicates that during this same period it has handled 25 reports of "threats to physical integrity." Such threats seem to be on the rise, and will be published in the report covering July and August of this year.

* Women's Rights Initiative

90CA0132C Guatemala City DIARIO DE CENTRO AMERICA in Spanish 10 Sep 90

[Text] The Human Rights Commissioner, Ramiro de Leon Carpio, said he has decided to create the position of "Women's Rights Commissioner in order to promote a full range of activities designed to improve the status of women, and to seek equality for women in terms of their rights and obligations.

The PDH [Human Rights Commissioner] said he has appointed Maria Eugenia de Sierra as Women's Rights Commissioner, primarily because of her dedication and sensitivity to the status of women in Guatemala.

The creation of this position fulfills the commitment made on 8 March of this year, International Women's Day, to emphasize the need to coordinate and promote specific activities on women, said Leon Carpio.

The Human Rights Commissioner added that this position could coordinate all women's rights activities for the institutions working in this field. To have a true democratic process, it is essential that women participate in all fields of national life in conditions of equality, the Commissioner emphasized.

In closing, the Commissioner reported that people in different departments have already volunteered to work with the Women's Rights Commissioner, and he called on people who wish to work in this field to contact this organization.

Honduras

Callejas Willing To Send Troops to Persian Gulf

PA2909165590 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1725 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] United Nations, 28 Sep (EFE)—Honduran President Rafael Leonardo Callejas today stated his willingness to contribute to a UN force in the Persian Gulf and condemned Iraq's 2 August invasion of Kuwait.

Callejas said that his country had condemned the invasion of Kuwait and had offered its modest contribution to a multilateral peace force, under UN aspices, that could help to restore peace to that region.

The president asserted: Our fervent desire, however, is that diplomatic measures suffice to preserve peace and make reason and right prevail in the Persian Gulf.

Callejas expressed his surprise and indignation at the invasion that, based simply on military superiority, wants to make Kuwait one of Iraq's provinces. This action, he said, is a violation of the principles of peaceful coexistence.

Honduras was one of the countries that founded the United Nations 45 years ago. Callejas said the organization was founded at a time when the ashes of a terrible world conflict were still warm. He noted that he was the first Honduran president to speak before the United Nations General Assembly.

The president added that this fact showed that the government and people of Honduras had renewed trust in the United Nations and in its ability to attain the goals for which it had been established. It was a tool to attain peace, to ensure the rights of men, and to propitiate development and well-being for nations through international cooperation, Callejas said.

According to the Honduran president, however, the organization's main task in favor of humanity had been put off during decades of confrontations. The task is to improve the quality of life for hundreds of millions of human beings who barely subsist amid conditions of extreme poverty, he noted.

The United Nations has the necessary determination and infrastructure to increase its contribution to the social and economic improvement of all the countries around the world, the Honduran President stated.

He added that all the countries that are United Nations members, especially those from the industrialized world, must now express their will and solidarity by designating more resources to confront this challenge.

Callejas ended his speech, repeating his wish that the United Nations be strengthened and that peace around the world be consolidated for the well-being of all nations.

Nicaragua

FNT Leader Assesses Nationwide Protests

PA0110143990 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1238 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Report on interview with National Workers Front leader Jose Angel Bermudez by unidentified reporter; place and date not given]

[Summary From Poor Reception] "The nationwide day of protests began today. This morning a day of nationwide protests, which were called for by the FNT [National Workers Front], got underway. They are being held to protest the government's economic measures that are harmful to the workers. At 0900, thousands of workers will march toward the presidential palace, and university students will join that demonstration. Various protest activities have been organized for the entire day. Here is FNT leader Jose Angel Bermudez."

[Begin recording] [Bermudez] "The FNT and other groups organized several events that will start in the morning." All these groups are protesting "that major agreements have been violated. We are demanding a true agreement with the people and the workers." Those participating in the demonstration will gather in 16 areas all over Managua. "[Words indistinct] are gathering in areas where workers and people will demonstrate. There will be demonstrations in different neighbhoods of Managua." Various groups will also hold demonstrations in "Matagalpa, Juigalpa, Chinandega, and Esteli." The national protests "will be held until the government reaches a genuine agreement with the people," which is in line with the "interests of the people and workers."

[Reporter] "What is the (?intention)" of these protests?

[Bermudez] "The movement will continue to grow" until the government gives certain "signals that it is really interested in reaching an agreement." "We cannot be held responsible for the impact of the government's measures and violations" that harm workers. "We cannot be held responsible for the reaction" of the people. [end recording]

FNT Announces Upcoming Government Talks

PA0110223490 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1930 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] Addressing approximately 6,000 workers who staged a demonstration outside the Presidency on the first day of a national protest, promoted by the FNT [National Workers' Front], the union's top leader, Lucio Jimenez, announced that on 2 October the FNT will hold talks with representatives from Mrs. Chamorro's government.

[Begin Lucio Jimenez recording] We have, since early this morning, initiated a militant protest campaign. Officials from Mrs. Chamorro's government have insisted during meetings with us that since they won over 60 percent of the votes in the elections, they are entitled to implement a devastating policy against the people of the humble working class. They feel that they are entitled to further increase the wealth of the wealthy. This is what happens when 16 members of the bourgeoisie take over the companies that cost us so much during the years of the revolution.

Mrs. Chamorro does not care that it is said that she is the leading promoter of this decision, which has resulted in the dismissal of thousands of workers. Our position is that if this antiworker and antipopular policy is not stopped, we will strongly and militantly resist—and not just the workers, but the students, settlers, peasants, taxi drivers, bus drivers, and all Nicaraguans who have been victimized by this irresponsible policy, a policy that benefits minority interests to the detriment of majority interests. It is an undignified policy that bends to the international financial organizations and to interests foreign to this country.

[Person in crowd] [Words indistinct].

[Jimenez] This is why... [interrupted by applause] it is good for Mrs. Chamorro to know that a worker here has said that she would not even win 20 percent of the votes now. [Shouts from crowd].

They say that Mrs. Chamorro's votes have been (?devalued) on Thursdays and Mondays. During the five months of government, 18,500 people have become unemployed. This government is irresponsible. At different meetings it has attempted to intimidate us with pressure and blackmail. This week, comrades, we are to hold meetings with the government, meetings it has agreed to because of the pressure you have exerted. [applause]

One of those meetings may be held on 2 October. It will be a bilateral meeting between the FNT and the government, during which we will insist that the government fulfill the pledges it has made. If this government proves incapable of fulfilling its pledges, it will mean that it is ill-prepared to truly reach agreements with the working, popular, and peasant sectors. It would mean that this government cannot rule. We will not, however, serve as rulers. We are fighters who defend the workers' rights, and the government should be fully aware of what has been said at this mass demonstration—we have initiated an (?indescribable) popular protest. The government has two possible alternatives—either it fulfills its pledges or faithfully pledges to favor national interests. [crowd shouts: "They must go."] [end recording]

3,000 Sandinists Demonstrate

PA0210042190 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2041 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] Managua, 1 Oct (ACAN-EFE)—Approximately 3,000 Sandinist workers today demonstrated in front of the Presidency in Managua to protest the government's economic policy, which is intended, according to opposition leaders, to deliver the country to international financial organizations.

The demonstration was uneventful despite the presence of antiriot policemen.

About 3,000 workers participated in the rally, according to the pro-Sandinist National Workers Front [FNT], which organized the protest march.

The FNT leaders, an organization with more than 200,000 members, had asserted that the demonstration

would be "civil" and that they did not intend to "riot," as Nicaraguan Vice President Virgilio Godoy had reported.

This same organization organized the May and July strikes, which nearly paralyzed the country and led to disturbances in which six people were killed and dozens were injured.

Shortly before the demonstration, the FNT suggested to the 400,000 members of the pro-Sandinist Popular Struggle Front [FLP] that they should go to work, attend classes, and carry on with their normal activities as usual.

The FLP consists of six worker federations, two unions, and student and community movements.

The police erected a wire fence at three points of access to the presidential palace, which prevented the demonstrators from getting near the Presidency.

In addition, several military trucks were parked to block the two main streets that lead to the Presidency, while approximately 3,000 riot policemen cordoned off the area.

The workers, who work at several metalworking and industrial enterprises that Sandinist union members say the government is attempting to privatize, rallied in front of the police cordon and set tires on fire and set off firecrackers.

At the head of the demonstrators, who shouted enthusiastically "Not one step backwards," top FNT leader Lucio Jimenez warned that if the government does not change its "unpopular economic policy," the workers "will offer firm and militant resistance."

Jimenez said that the protest "will last until the government changes its plans." In addition, he reported the destruction of the two transmitters of the radio station La Primerisima by unidentified persons last night.

Victor Hugo Tinoco, former deputy foreign minister, who watched the demonstration, said that the government "cannot apply a regular plan to stabilize the economy." He added that the adjustment measures must be accompanied by a program to protect the society's most vulnerable sectors.

The government of Violeta Chamorro announced a "major surgery" economic plan 10 days ago , which includes firing 25,000 state workers, restricting bank loans, and privatizing a majority of the 400 state enterprises, many of them in financial deficit situations.

Shortly afterward, the government announced that 16 state enterprises, which had been confiscated by the previous government after the triumph of the Sandinist revolution in July 1979, would be returned to their former owners.

The announcement that state enterprises would be returned, the firing of workers, and the invasion of land in the hands of Sandinist cooperatives by former contras aggravated the crisis and led the FNT to call for the civil disobedience plan.

Pro-Sandinist Radio Station Attacked

PA0110142690 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1204 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Report on interview with Radio La Primerisima Director William Grigsby by unidentified reporter; place and date not given]

[Text] The most popular and most politically influential pro-Sandinist radio station in Nicaragua, Radio La Primerisima, was destroyed last night in a terrorist attack. Individuals who claimed to be Government Ministry officials burned the plant of Radio La Primerisima, located on the coastline of Managua Lake, 1 km north of La Perfecta. Radio La Primerisima, a strong critic of the Chamorro administration for its way of exercising power according to [words indistinct], as the FSLN [National Sandinist Liberation Front] has said many times, was destroyed last night.

Four men, armed with pistols and rifles, entered the transmitter site of Radio La Primerisima last night, capturing the custodian and setting the facilities on fire. Custodian Victor Sanchez, who appeared very nervous, said that the four individuals, posing as Government Ministry inspectors, arrived at approximately 2000 [0200 GMT] and later fled in a station wagon.

Radio La Primerisima Director William Grigsby has urged everyone to avoid violent reactions to this provocation. Grigsby said that the destruction of the transmitter facilities of Radio La Primerisima is a provocation to which the people should not respond violently on this day of civic protest.

Grigsby said that it is no coincidence that the attack on the radio station was carried out on the eve of the nationwide civic protest. Grigsby, also a commentator on the Radio La Primerisima newscast "Without Borders," said that the government knows that Radio La Primerisima is its opponent. He added that the attack on the radio station has left the heads of 50 families jobless and that the radio station has no resources to replace the equipment that was destroyed. Let us listen to Radio La Primerisima Director William Grigsby:

[Begin recording] [Grigsby] We have hope and faith in the Nicaraguan people. We trust that they will help us overcome this problem and that we will get another transmitter plant. We do not have any kind of economic backing. We only have the Nicaraguan people's support.

[Reporter] William, this attack has been carried out on the eve of a nationwide day of civic protest. Do you link the country's current situation to this attack?

[Grigsby] That is evidently the most important thing, because there is a connection between those two [words indistinct] between what will happen in the country tomorrow or as of tomorrow and what has taken place here tonight. I believe, however, that we must take things easy. We have to wait for the results of the police investigation. At this point, I do not have any definitive conclusion. The truth is that the forces that support the government know that La Primerisima has an ideological opponent. The Nicaraguan people also know that all their actions had the support of La Primerisima, and this attack is no coincidence. We fully identify with the Nicaraguan people's actions. It is also no coincidence that tomorrow the people are starting another phase of their struggle and that tonight this radio station was silenced.

[Reporter] What is the approximate total of the losses experienced by the radio station?

[Grigsby] A preliminary assessment... [pauses] you know that this was very old equipment but, according to its current cost, I believe that we have lost approximately $100,000, including installation and everything else. The most important thing is not so much the property damage, but the fact that this attack has left 50 families without food. We all depended on these jobs for a living. We do not have any other resources, except for this job.

I would like to tell the Nicaraguan people to avoid reacting violently to this provocation. This could be a provocation to simply crush the people's movement. I believe we must act with maturity, just as the FNT, the National Workers Front, is doing. Its members are conducting civic protests, which include demonstrations, [word indistinct], this and that. Let us not go beyond that line. Let us not respond with violence to this attack, which is against all of us. We would also criticize ourselves, however, if we respond violently to this attack. I believe violence would not be the most advisable reaction at this moment. We must try to keep calm. Those who conducted this attack are responding with the only means available to them: violence. We have reason and ideas on our side, and we will struggle using these means. [end recording]

Presidency Condemns Attack

PA0110212590 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 2018 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Communique issued by the Presidency Information and Press Directorate in Managua on 1 October]

[Text] The Presidency hereby vigorously condemns the terrorist attack that unidentified criminals perpetrated last night against the transmitter and antenna of La Primerisima radio station. The national salvation government condemns these acts of violence and states that they do not contribute toward a climate of national reconciliation, but constitute an attempt against freedom of expression, one of the basic principles of the government of Violeta Barrios de Chamorro. The government has instructed the National Police to investigate the events and punish those responsible.

Anonymous Caller Threatens Radio Ya

PA0110175490 Managua Radio Ya in Spanish 1200 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] We want to announce to the public that this morning Radio Ya was threatened with being destroyed. A cowardly anonymous person called our studios a few moments ago, saying that last night it was Radio La Primerisima, and today it will be us. We are alerting the public and the authorities so that they can adopt the necessary measures because some people apparently want to silence the communications media, which are known to be at the service of the people.

FSLN Issues 'El Crucero Thesis'

PA0110014190 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 25 Sep 90 p 3

["Document" approved by the Sandinist National Liberation Front National Directorate and the Sandinist Assembly on 22 September]

[Text] **The El Crucero Thesis**

1. The National Assembly of FSLN [Sandinist National Liberation Front] militants that met in El Crucero on 17 June 1990, after discussing the national political situation, set the following basic goals and tasks:

a. To reject all efforts to eliminate achievements made by the revolution.

b. To defend and strengthen the people's democratic rights and the political spaces legitimately belonging to Sandinism.

c. To struggle for a solution of the serious economic and social problems experienced by the workers and people in general.

d. To defend the Constitution and to struggle for the consolidation of a state of law.

e. To defend national sovereignty and independence, in view of the foreign meddling in our domestic affairs.

We also commit ourselves to the main task of heading the struggle for peace and authentic national reconciliation, and to reject the revenge tactics promoted by sectors of the extreme right.

We said after the Sandinist electoral defeat that the struggle for these objectives would clash with the counterrevolutionary projects that the capitalists from Miami, business enterprises, extremist political groups, and the Somozist and neo-Somozist elements—acting within and outside the government—are trying to impose on our country.

We have clearly said that extremist sectors of the Yankee government would use all available means and the possibilities offered to them by the current Nicaraguan Government to promote the counterreovlution and to eliminate Sandinism.

We label the current government as bourgeoise and pro-U.S., because it has clearly said that its programs are aimed at dismantling the revolution. We reached the conclusion that the progress of the counterrevolutionary program would ultimately depend on the correlation between the democratic and revolutionary forces, and those who want to return to the Somozist past.

We decided that, for the defense of our achievements, the main type of struggle should be direct action by the masses. Until now, only the organized strength of the labor unions has managed to curb the aims of the government and the counterrevolutionary forces. The struggle of the masses should be accompanied by political-ideological confrontations, legal, legislative and all other actions allowed by the Constitution and laws.

Last, we agreed to prepare "our position to face possible efforts of economic effort, to defend revolutionary achievements, and to protect the people's interests."

The Government Intensifies Polarization

2. The events that have occurred between 17 June and today clearly confirm the analysis made and the conclusions reached in the El Crucero document.

Through government decrees and aribtrary actions, the rightist forces have attempted to weaken the revolutionary labor unions and federations, disavow basic revolutionary achievements, and destroy the moral authority of Sandinism.

During these months these attempts have been held in check or neutralized by the determined efforts of the organized workers, who have been forced to even decree a general strike to defend their vital interests. Despite the workers' efforts, however, the rightist forces have not changed their counterrevolutionary programs in the least.

Employees are still being dismissed because of political revenge. The people who obtained property and homes under Law 85 are being threatened with eviction. The government is planning to use Decree 11-90 to return properties to the oligarchies and Somozists. Land confiscations by the disarmed contras are being abetted and tolerated, and formal commitments made by the government with the workers are being violated.

All these situations have worsened the country's social instability. Despite the official conciliatory speech, political revenge prevails and the polarization of our society increases. There is a climate of profound distrust between the government and the people. Social disorder blocks the possiblities for an economic recovery that the country so desperately needs.

A Grave National Crisis

3. The political destabilization factors are compounded by the critical economic situation, which is worsened by the unilateral and antipopular policies that the government has been imposing since 25 April, with terrible consequences for most of the people. These policies have resulted in the following:

a. The unemployment of more than 40 percent of the country's economically active population.

b. An increase of children's deaths due to malnutrition and controllable epidemics.

c. The extremely high price of consumer goods, which has placed Nicaragua on the same level with the most expensive countries of the world, while most of the people's income remains among the lowest in the world.

d. The bankruptcy of hundreds of small, medium-sized, and even large enterprises due to a recessive policy and an exaggerated increase in production costs.

e. The acceleration of a hyperinflation that is brutally expropriating the families' and enterprises' income.

f. Poverty and hunger increase more everyday and, consequently, social corruption and crime increase.

This social and economic situation, however, tends to worsen with the government's announcements about additional cuts in the national budget and cuts in credits to producers and has new negative impacts on the unemployment and social benefits that the revolution had gained for the people.

Revengeful attitudes, political polarization, and a extremely grave deterioration in the people's living conditions have created a truly explosive situation to which solutions must be urgently sought. These solutions can only be found based on respect for the people's interests and never through the forcible imposition of policies that only benefit small minorities.

In Favor of a True National Dialogue

4. Nicaragua urgently demands peace and social stability. The FSLN is convinced that the quickest and least painful way to achieve this goal is through negotiations to settle deep political, economic, and social disputes.

Violence and confrontations will continue to prevail as long as this does not occur, because this is the only way the various groups can defend their interests. Under these circumstances, the Sandinists, the workers, and the people are compelled to continue defending our rights and achievements in every legitimate way within our means.

From this viewpoint, the national dialogue must be a coordinated action of the leading groups in the country, rather than a simple pact to harmonize prices and salaries. If it is a coordinated action, we might be able to counter the current crisis in all its aspects. Within this

framework, the national dialogue cannot be considered a one-time action; instead, it is a permanent discussion and negotiation process about the most important national issues and with the appropriate interlocutors, according to the topic and the situation.

We also think that the national dialogue is a social process and not secret negotiations behind the people's backs. The national dialogue cannot replace, as a method, the struggles waged by the various groups to defend their legitimate interests. Instead, it is an extension of the struggle to seek just solutions to national problems. If the national dialogue fairly and successfully achieves progress, it will certainly prevent many of the disputes that occur because of a lack of understanding.

We believe that this process is connected to all of the nation's interests because recent events may lead the country to chaos and general violence. We must encourage all of the country's responsible and constructive groups to seek overall agreements and isolate counterrevolutionary and revengeful positions that preclude the search for national stability. The FSLN must play a leading role in this process because this is the way to defend the people's interests.

We have said clearly that the national dialogue is a method, and at this moment is very important, but not the goal; and we, the revolutionaries, can only participate in it to defend the people's interests from a position of patriotism and responsibility. The masses' organized struggle is an essential part of the effort that we must exert to achieve a national effort that is favorable for the majority of the people and the nation as a whole.

Objectives of the reconciliation

5. The FSLN thinks that for the reconciliation process to be true, it must guarantee the following objectives:

a. Preserve the fundamental gains that the revolution attained for the people.

b. Check the deterioration of the people's economic and social situation.

c. Stop the spirit of political revenge by the government and other sectors.

d. Consolidate the democratic regime based on respect for the Constitution and bylaws.

e. Prevent the return of the political and economic manifestations of Somozism.

f. Outline a national project on the country's future development.

Conditions for the Reconciliation

6. The causes of the crisis we are experiencing are of two kinds, political and economic. There can be no significant progress in the solution of the great economic and social problems if the conditions for a minimum political stability are not created simultaneously.

This week, the government convoked the various sectors to discuss the economic and social reconciliation, turning a deaf ear to the demands of the FSLN and union and people's leaders on the need to create minimum conditions, which do not exist at present because of the repeated manifestations of political revenge, unjustified dismissals, and the failure to comply with the accords and commitments with workers.

In addition, the government's statement that, with or without reconciliation, it will apply its already outlined antipopular policies, reveals the lack of a true willingness for dialogue and negotiation and strengthens our conviction that this convocation only intends to legitimize the imposition of already made decisions through an alleged reconciliation.

So that the dialogue process can progress steadily, it is essential to establish a groundwork of trust and credibility between the participants. The government bears the weight of the responsibility in establishing this groundwork. As long as these conditions do not exist, attending the dialogue is useless. Turning down the government's invitation was the only consistent alternative left for us in our search for a genuine reconciliation process.

The FSLN believes that for the national dialogue to progress, certain essential conditions must be met. The conditions are that: the government take steps to comply with the Esquipulas accords signed with the workers; remove the demobilized contras who have taken over lands in the people's ownership sector, cooperatives, and privately owned areas; guarantee respect for the land, property, and homes of those who were helped by the revolution; remove officials who wage or permit vengeful actions, abandon the project to return properties to their former owners as stipulated in Decree 11-90, and not take new unilateral economic measures that would aggravate the people's situation even more.

Tasks for the Reconciliation

7. The FSLN organs and members should immediately undertake the following tasks in favor of an agreement that will truly conbtribute to the solution of the serious problems in the country.

a. To organize and support the struggle of the various social sectors to protect their most valuable interests within a consistent strategy. Special attention must be paid to protecting the people's onweship sector and cooperative lands, fighting against unjustified dismissals, protecting workers' land and homes, and neutralizing attempts at returning properties to their former owners. Mobilizing all of the social strata against unemployment, the high cost of living, and the deterioration of the health services is also important.

b. To contact government officials and leaders of political parties and labor unions to persuade them that the only alternative for the country is an understanding based on the terms presented here.

c. To explain our view to the rank and file.

d. To encourage specific solutions to the most serious conflicts in each territory, particularly those cases involving the demobilized contras, within the guidelines outlined at the El Crucero meeting.

Humberto Ortega Explains Sandinist Loyalties

PA0110012890 Managua EL SEMANARIO in Spanish 20-26 Sep pp 14, 15

[Interview with General Humberto Ortega, commander of the Sandinist People's Army (EPS) by reporter Marcio Vargas at Ortega's offices in the EPS headquarters in Managua; date not given; quotation marks as published]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] **I am still a Sandinist**

[Vargas] How would you currently describe yourself politically? Are you the same as when you were a member of the FSLN's [Sandinist National Liberation Front] Directorate?

[Ortega] According to the agreements that have been reached, it is clear that active members of the Armed Forces cannot hold directorate positions in any political party. Furthermore, from the legal standpoint, a member of the Army should not be involved in political proselytism. It is also clear, however, that every member of the Army is entitled to membership in the political party of his choice. That membership is not restricted either by the Constitution or by any agreement.

[Vargas] That is exactly why I asked the question...

[Ortega] I am still a Sandinist in the sense that I am still a revolutionary. It is precisely because I am a revolutionary, because I have a strong sense of what Sandino and revolutionary values stand for, that I considered my withdrawal from the national directorate to be the right thing to do. I believe that right now it is necessary to promote a nonpartisan army with an increasingly professional structure. This army should adhere to the country's laws, regardless of the governments that may emerge from elections.

As for my convictions, I am still a revolutionary, and as the military commander I will ensure that the Army abides by the law in its dealings with society.

Godoy's Radicalism

[Vargas] You have commented on radical behavior. What radical behavior have you noticed specifically among the rightists and among the Sandinists?

[Ortega] The unreasonable attempts to totally deny the achievements of the past decade, the attempts to change the Constitution, and attempts to reverse the revolutionary transformations are the most radical behaviors that I have noticed. Those sectors behind these actions even refuse to accept a reality as great and clear as Sandinism. Instead, they see themselves reflected in the virulent positions expressed by certain spokesmen within and outside of the government.

It is true that of late the leading government spokesmen have not displayed such radical positions, but some of them still do, especially those who began supporting Virgilio Godoy—because there are a number of people who identify with Godoy—since the strikes in July, when a very dangerous group was formed. This group has attacked the status quo and the executive's legitimacy; this group has dared to form "salvation committees," which are a problem that must be dealt with, otherwise a parallel government could develop.

The left wing, so to speak, extends from the known ultraleftists to the extremely exuberant Sandinists, seen during the July strike, who view the current government in a somewhat simplistic and totally mechanical light, as an imperialist, bourgeoisie, and radical government. This sectors sees nothing positive in the government and believes that the Central Intelligence Agency, imperialism, and other things are behind everything that the government does, as though the government was being programmed like a computer. This sector believes that the only solution is for the government to be toppled, overthrown, or sabotaged. If any of these things happened, then they would be free to create a solely laborer-peasant government without the rest of society, and to impose a rigid, orthodox model. These positions are also dangerous.

[Vargas] Now that you have mentioned Virgilio Godoy, who was once a member of the Sandinist government, some people believe that his stance is the product of some sort of vicious hatred or hostility. What do you think?

[Ortega] I do not know how to describe the visceral hatred that Virgilio demonstrated during the elections campaign, and has shown since then, but I think that his position is due more to his ambition for power and prominence than to hatred for any person in particular. Perhaps he thought that if he rejected the Sandinists outright he would secure a better position in the elections.

I think his vicious anti-Sandinist positions are emphasizing his ambition and his desire to be on good terms with the most reactionary sectors of the United States. I think Godoy thinks that these sectors will support him. The truth is that it is difficult to know who Godoy's followers are trying to poison. Are they after the Sandinists, Violeta Barrios de Chamorro or Antonio Lacayo? The search for power by Godoy and his followers shows that their viciousness and inconsistency can only be explained only in terms of their ambition. I am not going to evaluate Godoy's personality because that would be difficult to do. I would not dare trying that.

[Vargas] One of the most publicized and least known cases involving the Army concerns the dismissal of Lieutenant Colonel Javier Pichardo. What really happened?

[Ortega] Following the Sandinist electoral defeat, there was an explosion of criticism, which sometimes was not expressed in the best way. Sometimes it was expressed too liberally. It was as if the defeat had broken a silence. The criticism began pouring out. Questions concerning why we lost and what went wrong began to surface. The Army did not escape this criticism, of course, but in the Army we have a military discipline that must be respected.

That is what happened with Pichardo. After the elections, he disregarded correct military manners. His connections with civilians led him to act in an undisciplined manner. He did many things and then was forced to find solutions for his problem. Some people still have trouble understanding that the elections are over and that we must move on.

The Army cannot have high-ranking officers acting nonchalantly, like civilians, because careless attitudes may endanger the institution's image and give the impression that army commanders are meddling in civilian affairs, especially when officers start organizing meetings. Sometimes situations occur in which no harm was meant by the officer, but nevertheless, they must be careful about promoting ideas or initiatives in areas that do not concern them.

Events such as these represent carelessness. When we talked, Pichardo told me that he had acted carelessly and had neglected his work. There was never a conspiracy or challenge to the command. Pichardo also said that he does not understand how he could have behaved in any manner that might have harmed the institution.

[Vargas] Pichardo's contact was with Cristiana Chamorro of the daily LA PRENSA?

[Ortega] Here there is a single command and a support body, the military council. Pichardo was penalized because of his lack of discipline in and out of the Army. He was not penalized for having spoken with Cristiana Chamorro, but for engaging in activities he was not supposed to without authorization from the command.

[Vargas] General, there are questions about you. The president has publicly said that you are "temporarily" in charge of the Army and that you will retire when she decides that the time is right. What will you do when this happens?

[Ortega] "It must be understood that right-wing extremists are particularly interested in having the army commanders removed. The truth is that the decision to respect the commanders, as specified in the transition agreements, has been just and correct, because a dangerous situation would have been created if changes had been made in the military leadership. This could and can create a deep mistrust that—far from helping to achieve the stability that the government wants—might create chaos in which no one would be the winner because an agreement endorsed by Mrs. Chamorro through Antonio Lacayo, would be violated.

[Vargas] But is your command temporary?

[Ortega] "No. The document does not say that it is temporary."

[Vargas] But the president has the constitutional authority to change the head of the Army, does she not?

[Ortega] "Yes, but she can only do it according to the country's laws and the army's laws. I do not see, therefore, how anyone can act in a capricious manner. The president has the authority to appoint the head of the Army, but she must do it fairly and because it needs to be done.

"According to the army's internal regulations, if the head of the Army retires, a member of the military council can propose his replacement. No outsider can do it because this would be going against the promotion roster, the corps, the leadership, and the army's institutionality and professionalism.

"If a change is necessary, then it must come from within the Army. It must be proposed by the military council, and the president must take this into consideration. In other words, it cannot be done any other way.

"The president has been under a lot of pressure from the extremists, and I think she has acted in a just and most intelligent way for most of the Nicaraguan people's welfare."

Daniel Ortega Discusses 'National Crisis'

PA3009183890 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0040 GMT 29 Sep 90

["Talk" between former President Daniel Ortega Saavedra and Deputy Presidency Minister Antonio Ibarra during the "Democracy in the Making" program in Managua—live]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] [Ibarra] Commander Ortega, referring to the grave national crisis, we currently have several hopes and expectations. The president of the republic, Mrs. Violeta Barrios de Chamorro, has issued an appeal to the international community at the 44th UN General Assembly, asking and demanding on behalf of the Nicaraguan people that Nicaragua be given special treatment as a postwar country, given the conditions that our nation has suffered for a decade—including the scourge of a war, a demobilization, the internal disruption of its production, the dismantling of its agricultural and production areas, and the exodus of a sizable portion of its population.

Our nation today needs to be treated as an exceptional case by the international community, donor countries, and international organizations. For the sake of this exceptional status, Nicaragua must have unity. Do you support this demand? Will we achieve a national consensus [words indistinct] national project and thus demand exceptional treatment for a (?united) government and people?

[Ortega] We have been struggling to achieve this national consensus for more than 11 years. We achieved a consensus to defeat the Somozist dictatorship. Then the consensus was weakened by the U.S. aggression, and we were immersed in a war. The international community was subject to pressure from the U.S. Government so that it would not provide resources to Nicaragua.

I told the U.S. ambassador—precisely yesterday, when we met at the UN installations in Managua with the UN representative and with Engineer Lacayo—that the problem of Nicaragua has resurfaced. The international community will be moved by Nicaragua's dramatic situation. What we demanded during the years I was president, and what we sought from the international community, will now be reviewed by the international community. The United States certainly has a great responsibility, and it must contribute so that the international community will provide Nicaragua with the resources that it demands to come out ahead.

We must bear in mind that Nicaragua filed a lawsuit at the International Court of Justice [ICJ] in The Hague and that the ICJ ruled in favor of Nicaragua. The ICJ stated that the United States must not only stop its policy of aggression against Nicaragua; it must also compensate the Nicaraguan people. The ICJ did not specify an amount, of course. I believe that when we filed the lawsuit.... [changes thought] We filed a lawsuit in excess of $17 billion.

The second phase follows and the ICJ will have to state if it is $17 billion, or $20 billion, or $10 billion, or $5 billion. In other words, the court will have to specify the amount. There is undeniably a court ruling, however, that the U.S. Government must compensate....[changes thought] I would say that therein lies the necessary resources to help Nicaragua during these dramatic moments.

Right now so much is being said about countries sticking together to face the Persian Gulf crisis. The United Nations is playing a very vigorous role. I have my points of view on the matter, but this is not a topic to be discussed now, I am more interested in discussing Nicaragua. However, a connection no doubt exists.

[Ibarra] Has the United Nations helped and backed Nicaragua's peace efforts?

[Ortega] The United Nations has reacted very timidly due to U.S. political pressure on UN member countries. Now with the Persian Gulf situation there is an imbalance. We cannot say it is good for the United States to invade the same way it did Grenada [words indistinct]. There are good and bad invasions. The important thing is to back the UN system. If we are going to back the UN system, and the United States wants to avail itself of the United Nations, then the United States should begin by recognizing the ICJ ruling and seek an arrangement with Nicaragua. This would help to somewhat resolve things. I would say that the funds are just waiting.

[Ibarra] The current proposal being made before the United Nations by the president is that the country should be declared in a state of emergency to allow the country to make a social and economic recovery. [passage omitted]

[Ortega] This country has been devastated by war—its economic and social structures have been destroyed. No matter how many measures are adopted to reactivate the economy, unless the economic infrastructure is renovated, it does no good. We need to do this in the field—our main development base—and in industry. We also need to renovate clinics and schools, because we must take into account that the economy and production go hand in hand with the workers' welfare. If a worker is ill, he simply cannot produce. Health is an integral part of production.

The challenge we Nicaraguans have is to find a way to agree on how to share both benefits and burdens. We need to remove ideology from this problem. This is something we have repeatedly described as political vengeance. [passage omitted]

[Ibarra] Commander, regarding that explosion you mentioned, Minister Lacayo said today in his news conference that, if Nicaragua is in an explosive situation, it is the Sandinist Front that really has the match to light the dynamite, as the opposition party. If there is an explosion....

[Ortega, interrupting] I disagree. The dynamite was put there by the government with the measures it has imposed, that is the problem. When the government imposes these measures, when there are revanchist policies, when the health budget is reduced, and other budgets are reduced, this creates very strong tension. So the government places the dynamite and the government holds the match. Then....

[Ibarra, interrupting] We must avoid explosive situations.

[Ortega] What can an evicted person do? What can a person who is thrown out on the street do? What can a person who has nothing to eat do? That person has every right to look for a means to get food. How will that person end up? We are not talking about one person, we are talking about thousands of people. From the data the government has, 70 percent of the population lives in poverty and 16 or 17 percent of the population....

[Ibarra, interrupting] But all Nicaraguans could unite to....

[Ortega, interrupting] Meanwhile, we are seeing economic groups, comprised of Somozists who are returning to the country, being formed. These are people who are returning to the country to make money at whose cost? At the cost of those who have stuck it out in the country. I say that here in Nicaragua we must respect all those who stayed in Nicaragua all these years in any capacity, because, in the end, they have carried the burden—the small, medium-sized, and large producers of different political and ideological currents and the poor peasants, the peasants that supported the revolution and those

who supported the contras. All these people have been involved and it is not fair that now those who were in Miami have come to the country to make money. [Words indistinct] the FSLN is not in favor of an explosion. A social explosion cannot be promoted by a political party or political force.

[Ibarra] They can help moderate [word indistinct].

[Ortega] I will give Venezuela as an example. President Carlos Andres Perez won the elections with great popular support. He took office with great international support and, one month later, Venezuela was exploding. There was no revolution there. There was no tense situation there, as in Nicaragua, but Venezuela was exploding one month later. What did the Venezuelan Government have to do to control that situation? They turned to the police at first, but the police could not control the people. The policemen themselves are hungry, they joined the looting, but one cannot really call that looting.

[Ibarra] And thousands were killed.

[Ortega] Then, the Army stepped in and thousands were killed.

[Ibarra] Let us keep that from happening in Nicaragua.

[Ortega] In Nicaragua, we have a more dramatic situation, because the state of people in poverty is much greater, and the measures taken by the government constitute dynamite, the detonating fuse, and the match that will set off the bomb. The government has the power to defuse that bomb. The government can say there will be no dismissals. If implemented, that measure is positive. That is an element [words indistinct] of the president.

The government has talked of creating a commission, a land reform commission. If that measure works, and if the commission begins to hold sessions immediately with the participation of the contras, the UNAG [National Union of Farmers and Cattlemen], the ATC [Farm Workers Association], etc., and if it begins to work immediately to find solutions to problems, then the bomb will be defused. If the government abandons the idea of holding millions of dollars to protect the gold cordoba, keeping the cordoba on a par with the dollar, something that takes a developed country to do—even developed countries have to strive hard to maintain parity with the dollar—[words indistinct]. The government has to defuse the bomb it has been igniting and forsake its mentality of seeking revenge. We must stop levying accusations for past actions. If we [words indistinct] the past. [Words indistinct] Mrs. Chamorro's newspaper. News media like Radio Catolica is supposedly on the air to promote unity among Nicaragua, to unite Nicaraguans as Christians.

[Ibarra] Do you think that....

[Ortega, interrupting] Some other news media....

[Ibarra, interrupting] BARRICADA should also be toning down its statements, instead of inciting war in Waslala.

[Ortega] BARRICADA is not inciting war in Waslala.

[Ibarra] It announces that....

[Ortega, interrupting] The contras are advancing and taking over farms. That could lead to war, and so the newspaper is issuing a warning.

[Ibarra] Let us tone down the level of conflict.

[Ortega] A policy of seeking revenge allows this to happen. [Words indistinct] if we had revenge on our minds, we would have said: We cannot accept as candidates for deputy people who have committed crimes against the people, because they belong to the contra leadership. Mrs. Chamorro's son, Pedro Joaquin Chamorro, belonged to the contra directorate. [Words indistinct], many people whose hands are stained with blood, even though they did not fight. While some people were sent to die, others were defending U.S. policy. And so, there is room here for a vendetta against the Sandinists. One cannot take away land and housing from people who were helped by the revolution. I was the president until 25 April, and I was fully entitled to make all the decisions I made. Since 25 April, the new government has been fully entitled to make its decisions. It is one thing for the president—and I know this from experience—to want to do many things, and it is something else to be able to do them, because one clashes with reality. One can issue a decree and have good intentions, but the reality does not let him implement it.

This is what is happening to this government. It has issued decrees that cannot be implemented. One has to take this situation into consideration. Owing to the fact that we had a revolution, this is a privileged country, because its army and police, the Sandinist People's Army and the Sandinist Police, are the offspring of the revolution. They were born out of the revolutionary struggle. They are the fruit of Sandinism. That gives the country great stability. It gives stability to the government and the governed. The government has the certainty that these forces will never attack it, as they have been attacking and threatening the other governments of Latin America. Moreover, the people can be sure these forces will never fire at them. The solution must not come through violence, but through the path of dialogue and negotiation.

[Ibarra] We trust that is so.

[Ortega] There should not be confrontation or war. We must denounce here those who have adopted vengeful or extremist stances. No doubt, some people have vengeful attitudes. I remember that when the university hosted the forum, some people from extreme right-wing parties adopted extremist stances.

[Ibarra] Dogmatic.

[Ortega] So much so that it was impossible to talk of a consensus, when the matter at hand is to find a solution to a national problem. We have right-wing sectors, however, headed by Vice President Virgilio Godoy, that support revenge. That attitude leads nowhere. We must [words indistinct], and Nicaraguans must join hands. Based on what? Based on the interests of the poor. The government must become sensitive to the needs of the poor. Experts must realize that it is impossible to implement in Nicaragua a program like the one that is being implemented. That program will lower the inflation rate and stabilize the currency. Then, the experts will go to the IMF, and the IMF will say, very good; you get a high grade.

The IMF is an instrument of economic policies that harm the interests of developing countries. Latin American and developing countries have condemned the IMF policies in a recent statement.

[Ibarra] To overcome this poverty, we must present a joint plan, and speak with a single voice.

[Ortega] The IMF is a reality, and we are not saying talks should not be held with the IMF. Of course we have to talk to the IMF, as well as to the United States. We must do so, however, to seek benefits for the country, not to crush the country through an agreement with the IMF. I believe it is viable and possible for Nicaraguans, if we reach an agreement....

[Ibarra, interrupting] Among ourselves.

[Ortega] ....among ourselves, to become a tremendous force. That way, when we talk to the IMF, European governments, and the United States, we can say: Gentlemen, Nicaragua is presenting a problem of rehabilitation. We must rehabilitate the economy. We must rehabilitate production, education, and everything that was destroyed by the war. No Latin America country can present a panamora as dramatic as Nicaragua's. [passage omitted]

FSLN Deputies Walk Out of National Assembly

PA3009145190 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 28 Sep 90 pp 1, 5

[Text] The Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] bloc walked out of the National Assembly yesterday after the progovernment deputies approved a clause in the Teachers Law that "seeks to legitimize the Education Ministry's repressive policies by recognizing directors of institutes and schools to be trusted employees, which would expose them to political revenge."

In a communique issued last night, the Sandinist bloc stated: "Adopting decisions that create more political tension is irresponsible and provocative at a crucial time when we need to promote national dialogue and understanding."

By leaving the Assembly, the FSLN also broke talks it had been taking part in since 26 September as part of a special congressional commission in charge of drafting an agenda for a political dialogue [concertacion politica].

Shortly before the Sandinist bloc withdrew, Sergio Ramirez protested the "inconceivable intransigence" shown by the UNO [National Opposition Union] deputies by approving an article that could mean the dismissal of 10,000 directors of primary and secondary schools.

Ramirez, who heads the Sandinist bloc, said that the FSLN "will seriously review its position regarding the national dialogue" on economic and social matters proposed by the government.

FSLN Deputy Natan Sevilla compared the article to a militarization of the directors of the various schools in Uruguay during the military dictatorship there in the 1970's. The law was immediately repealed after democracy was restored in that country.

Chilean dictator Augusto Pinochet rejected a similar proposal.

There were two parallel processes in the Assembly yesterday. While the Special Commission prepared an agenda for a political dialogue, the other members of the congress met all day in the mezzanine to discuss the Teachers Law bill presented by the FSLN.

The law was unanimously approved in general. During debate on Article Four, however, UNO deputies introduced the concept of "trusted employees" used by the government to dismiss more than 10,000 state workers so far.

The FSLN immediately opposed the article stating that it contradicted the spirit of the law intended to guarantee job stability for all teachers, regardless or their political positions.

Sandinist Deputies Natan Sevilla, Jose Luis Villavicencio, Danilo Aguirre, Juan Ramon Aragon, Omar Cabezas, and Marcia Quezada unsuccessfully tried to convince the progovernment deputies.

National Assembly Vice President Luis Sanchez Sancho—who presided over the session—was the most enthusiastic defender of the teachers' dismissal. He even read a document prepared by his wife, Deputy Education Minister Hortensia Rivas, which, among other things, said that teachers "are politically trusted employees," that an English teacher holds a "politically partisan position," that female teachers have been fired "for lifting their skirts and showing their behinds" to MED [Ministry of Education] delegates, and that teachers have not been dismissed, but transferred."

Efforts were made to reach a consensus and a commission was appointed to redraft the article, but after much arguing and several recesses, the talks broke off at about 1830.

Luis Sanchez submitted the article in conflict to another vote and an UNO steamroller approved it, precipitating the Sandinist walkout.

Sanchez and Alfredo Cesar tried to continue the session and made a roll call to check for a quorum. Cesar announced that there were 47 representatives—the exact number needed for a quorum—so he authorized the session to continue.

Reporters counted the deputies present, however, and found that there were only 43. Apparently Cesar and Sanchez checked the journalists' observation and when they confirmed that they were violating the Assembly rules, they suspended the session for a lack of a quorum.

Panama

Endara Addresses UN General Assembly 1 Oct

PA0210003390 Panama City Television Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Speech by President Guillermo Endara at 45th UN General Assembly on 1 October—recorded]

[Text] Mr. President, Mr. Secretary General, delegates, special guests: First, I must announce our satisfaction with the election of Mr. Guido de Marco as president of the General Assembly. I must also acknowledge the efforts made by the distinguished Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar toward peace and the modernization of this organization. We are also pleased with the incorporation of Namibia and Liechtenstein as full members of the United Nations.

For the first time in 22 years, the Panamanian people are being truly and legitimately represented in this world forum. Since 1968, when a president recently elected by his people was the victim of a invidious military coup, until the end of last year, the force of arms, or the constant threat of their use, oppressed the Panamanian people and usurped my country's government. During those years, the concepts of justice, ethics, common good, development, and democracy were interpreted according to the whims of the usurpers. They were not interpreted according to the true sense of the people's will nor our national values.

On 7 May, Panamanians voted massively in an orderly manner, demonstrating an exemplary civic spirit. The elections were convened by the flimsy and repudiated military dictatorship, who, by wishful thinking, hoped to retain power through foul play and coercion before and during the electoral process. The people overwhelmingly voted against the dictatorial regime and in favor of democracy, freedom, and hope.

Today, from this forum and on behalf of all Panamanians, I wish to thank all the friendly peoples and governments, the international institutions, and all the people of goodwill who were present in our country to witness the results of the May elections and who, with their moral authority, strengthened our fighting spirit.

When fraud, coercion, and simple cheating, however, did not work or were insufficient to thwart the desire for change clearly expressed in the elections, the tyranny then resorted to a farce. In a high-handed and brazen act, it annulled the elections. The government told the people that the elections that it had convened, organized, and managed were not valid. So, with the stroke of a pen, through a degree lacking any legal or moral authority, the government delivered an incredible slap in the face to the Panamanians' most cherished ethical and civic values.

The rest of the story is well-known. There was more repression, persecution, exiles, murders, beatings, and violations of human rights. The Panamanian people were heartbroken and distressed at seeing themselves alone. The international community did not grant our struggle the vital importance it held for us. Neither did it view it in its full dimension, as a sad example for other nations. International diplomacy gave us a choice between accepting the conditions imposed by the illegitimate government that continued to hold power or resort to the human carnage that would result from a civil war between a defenseless people and a well-equipped army.

Only a fistful of brotherly countries fully understood the suffering of our people and supported us. When arrogance gave way to madness, the final and inevitable climax came.

Backed by the constitutional, legal, and moral mandate that the people had given us a few months earlier, we took power under the most chaotic of circumstances. The fundamental institutions on which democratic governments stand did not exist. There was no institution to guarantee public order. There was no legislative branch because an orderly renewal of its members had been prevented. The Supreme Court of Justice was leaderless. The state's treasury had been virtually looted because public funds were controlled and wasted by the military.

Public employees were not paid their salaries in full or on time. Payments on the foreign debt had been completely suspended for the previous three years. As a result of this, new credit disappeared. Political instability, added to the economic penalties imposed on the Panamanian Government by the U.S. Government in 1988, produced a depression in the national economy, the gross national product of which dropped by 16 percent in 1988 alone.

Fiscal income was reduced by 50 percent and unemployment climbed to 18 percent—a level without precedent in our history. Unemployment is the biggest problem we are facing. The decrease, and in some cases, the absence, of income resulted in the people being unable to satisfy their basic needs. In Panama, 45 percent of the people are poor. Most of the children live in poor homes. Poverty and unemployment affects most adversely young women in the 15 to 24-year age range.

There is a shortage of housing and the lack of housing keeps growing, thus forcing people to live humiliated under inhuman conditions in crowded places. Difficulties in financing housing for low income groups have resulted in the proliferation of so-called shantytowns. Lack of investment in the health and education sectors, especially in recent years, has resulted in impaired services for low income groups. Malnutrition, lack of drinking water, and a deficient education are problems we have inherited from the dictatorship and from the difficult situation of recent years. I must say with grief that social problems have their worst negative effect on children, on young people, women, Indians, and elderly people.

I want to speak on behalf of my people. I want to speak to the representatives of all the people of the world on behalf of the Panamanian people, who suffer, but who also have hope; on behalf of the peasants who work day and night under the hot sun or amid the tropical rain to survive; on behalf of workers used to hard work who want decent jobs but cannot find them; on behalf of those mothers who have to put their children to bed without having eaten; and on behalf of the boys who sell newspapers, or who shine shoes, or who offer goods for sale on street corners to take something to eat to their families, their childhood and their education cut short, forced to be adults prematurely.

The voice of the sick man who lacks medicine; the voice of the poor man who does not have a roof above his head, a bed in which to sleep, or blankets to cover him in the night; these are the voices I want to make resound on these grounds, the grounds of mankind's conscience. This is the banner I want to raise. This is the shout I want to make heard in all corners of the world. There is suffering in the world, and we must end it. In Panama, fortunately, there is a whiff of fresh breeze that fills us with hope and optimism. We breathe an air of freedom. There is a climate filled with democracy.

We Panamanians today are managing our own destiny. The democratic institutions are operating. Democracy must respond to the Panamanian people's material and spiritual needs. The three branches of state, duly constituted, work independently of each other, aware that a concentration of power is the danger we must avoid at all costs. We have abolished the Army because the Panamanian people do not want to have an Army, much less finance it. Only a few days ago and in an unheard of event, we, the civilian authorities, retired 142 officers of the former Army. We are thus demilitarizing the agency in charge of preserving public order. There are no generals, colonels, or lieutenant colonels in today's Panama. There is full freedom of expression and respect for human rights. There are only common criminals in the prisons. Only those Panamanians who so desire it live outside of their homeland.

Concerning the economy, the country has already started to feel an upsurge of energy. Confidence, both inside and outside the country increases. The restrictions that had been in effect for more than two years on term bank deposits were lifted a few months ago. No adverse effect on the system's liquidity was observed. Quite the contrary, bank deposits have increased so far this year. The construction industry, which creates so many direct and indirect jobs, is being reactivated, as attested to by the greater number of construction permits this year. Tourism and hotel occupancy increase daily. The volume of business in the Colon Free Zone has increased considerably.

We will soon have a new law that will allow for the establishment of industries in multisector areas geared toward exports. We have an aggressive policy to stimulate our exports. We are restoring order in our public finances and responsibly tackling the large inherited foreign debt. We are implementing a modest, yet efficient public investment program to meet the community's most pressing needs. We want democracy at the political level to be accompanied by democracy at the economic level. Every opportunity should be open to all citizens. We believe in economic growth, but also in human development. Our main concern is the unemployed and the poor. We have a considerable working force that is now idle. Many of these men and women are heads of households, who possess a high degree of academic training and desire to find decent jobs.

We have great needs to meet in the areas of housing, health, nutrition, and education, particularly for the children, who hold the promise of the future. We are fully aware that this investment in human capital is essential to attaining steady economic development, the benefits of which could extend to all sectors of the population. We should strive for democracy to be successful and effectively meet the population's needs.

I know that our efforts are supported by the governments of developed countries on our continent, Europe, and Asia, and that we can count on the goodwill of international organizations through credit and technical cooperation. That aid and cooperation acquires a new meaning in the post-cold war world, the emergence of which we celebrate in 1990. I will speak on that subject later.

So far I have referred to Panama's recent history and current situation, because they explain our firm position on many topics on the international agenda and because we feel that the United Nations should echo the ideals and hopes of the men and women of the world.

I believe that our experience is more or less shared by all the peoples represented here. First, and because we have suffered it in our flesh, we have instituted as law a principle according to which we will never recognize any government that emerges from a military coup against a legitimate government elected by the people, from electoral fraud, or from preventing elections stipulated by the domestic laws of the affected state. We will make no exceptions; we will be inflexible. No one who deceives

and ignores his people's will shall have the encouragement or support of my people or my government.

Second, we are concerned about the current situation of democracy around the world, particularly on the American continent. We unconditionally support all measures that may contribute toward the prompt solution of any electoral problem. We are pleased with the willingness of the UN Security Council and the General Secretariat to find a viable solution for the Haitian case, especially because Panama did not benefit from a similar attitude when it needed it recently.

Third, we support all actions that may contribute toward safeguarding political, civilian, and human rights guaranteed in international conventions. We are committed through the San Jose Convention to respect the jurisdiction and decisions of the Central American Court of Justice. We trust that this court will become the utmost warrantor of human rights for all men on our continent. We also have confidence in the work carried out by the Civil and Political Rights Commission with the approval of the United Nations, which will receive constant and complete support from the Panamanian Government.

Fourth, we will fight drug trafficking and its financial instruments by every means available, because our country was a direct victim of the narco-economy, as a consequence of the military government. We have adopted measures in our domestic laws to fight the laundering of money obtained from drug trafficking, by demanding the registration of banking transactions that exceed a certain amount in cash. We are willing to collaborate with international efforts in this regard. We are signatories of the UN Convention against the illegal trafficking of narcotics and psychotropic substances. This document will soon be presented to our legislative branch for study and ratification.

Fifth, we agree on the need to supervise the production and commercialization of weapons around the world for terrorist and antidemocratic intentions. Our country, which was an instrument of drug trafficking under the military government, is planning measures to prevent the illegal flow of weapons and military equipment. We must stop this immoral trafficking, as the Federal Republic of Germany wisely recommended a few days ago.

Sixth, I feel that the United Nations and all its related organizations should continue their work on such priority international matters as individual freedom, the eradication of poverty, and participatory human development, giving economic development a human perspective.

The work of the United Nations, linked with similar work at the national level by presidents who are truly committed to their people's welfare, will lead us during the rest of this century to the recovery of lost time. We should greet the new century amid a more constructive atmosphere, with people who are less anxious and anguished, people who are more satisfied with what they can accomplish for themselves with God's help. I would like to soon see the UN General Assembly declare this decade a decade against poverty, dedicated to halt our world's increased misery, sickness, and ignorance. I would like to see these reduced as much as possible.

We have come to this 45th Assembly to celebrate a year of extraordinary changes, which makes the United Nations reemerge as an organization with new tasks. At the end of the cold war, this organization has emerged in a world where international peace and cooperation are truly feasible. The United Nations can now devote its full time toward promoting social peace, human development, and respect for human rights. The path is open for an experience full of positive results. With the end of the cold war, the time is right to end one of the last relics of bygone times—I am referring to the exclusion of the ROK from this organization. The ROK is willing, as an active UN member, to contribute toward promoting world peace and international cooperation. The time is right, therefore, to end the ROK's nonparticipation. The ROK's full membership means a greater commitment to ease the reconciliation process on the Korean peninsula, according to the goals and principles of the UN Charter. Panama fully supports the ROK's induction into the UN organization as soon as possible. We also support the UN Security Council's resolution intended to end the conflict in Cyprus, eliminating the remnants of the cold war.

A dark cloud hangs over the post-cold war atmosphere. We meet during a time of serious crisis in the Middle East. A country's future and the lives of thousands of innocent people are threatened. I take this opportunity to express my government's unconditional support for the UN Security Council's laudable actions in defense of Kuwait's sovereignty and independence. The degree of cooperation achieved in this organization, the moderation of its discussions, and the courage it has shown in its decisions, have raised the authority of the United Nations to unprecedented levels and have won itself even greater international respect. Iraq's merciless invasion and annexation of Kuwait has served to remind us how fragile peace is. This cruel attack has not only received our condemnation, but also has, as never before, highlighted the interdependence of the countries of the world. We recognize that the loss of freedom, however small the country, can threaten the social peace and prosperity of larger countries. The Panamanian Government has fully complied with the UN Security Council's resolutions to end the Gulf crisis.

My government also firmly supports the actions taken so far under the United Nation's auspices and is willing to support any additional measures that this organization may authorize.

I would like to conclude by pointing out that Panama has progressed a great deal over the past few months and that it will continue to progress. The Panamanian people would like to see Panama become the sovereign owner of all its territory, the undisputed owner of all of its resources, all of which it will exploit, first for its own benefit and then for the world's benefit.

I reaffirm my government's conscientious respect for the 1977 canal treaties, as well as for its international commitments. I want Panama to be respected within the concert of nations, and this can be accomplished because Panama respects itself and the government respects its people. We participate fearlessly and free of entanglements in all of our international relationships because we are fully aware of our own value.

I am overwhelmingly pleased to announce an historic event: At the head of our inter-oceanic waterway, for the first time in history, is a Panamanian citizen who was designated by my government. The observance of all canal treaty arrangements has proven the U.S. Government's intention to fulfill all of its commitments and duties as stated in the canal treaties signed in 1977. We are optimistic about the U.S. Government's intentions, although there are still many problems that we must discuss with the United States.

This reference to our interoceanic waterway prompts me to define our concept of the canal in the 21st century. It is a Panamanian canal that will be directed by Panamanians, but based upon confirmation of the multilateral interests of all who use it. We will take the world's needs into consideration and, very particularly, those of our neighboring countries on the continent. Thus, the Panamanian Government will periodically consult with the Latin American and Caribbean Governments, so that the canal's policies will prove advantageous to all.

I would like to enjoy good relations with all countries. I would like even better relations with those countries that display equal interest in Panama. Panama will prosper and it will enjoy peace, because an industrious and critical people like the Panamanians share ideals of democracy, justice, and freedom, and always seek the truth. May God always enlighten the Panamanian people so that they will not sway from this course. May God enlighten the leaders of all the nations of the world so that they, also, can share the desires, ideals, and hopes of the Panamanian people and their government. Thank you very much. [applause]

Argentina

Menem Meets Bush, Thatcher, Others at UN

PY0110211290 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 1 Oct 90 p 1

[Text] United Nations (DYN-NA)—President Carlos Menem met U.S. President George Bush and proposed holding yearly meetings of the World Summit for Children here yesterday.

Menem gave a brief speech before the 77 heads of state gathered here to plan a strategy to save 100 million children from death by disease and malnutrition in the coming decade.

"We must wage a world-wide battle for the survival and health of children," Menem said in his three-minute speech.

The president and Foreign Minister Domingo Cavallo came to New York for the meeting sponsored by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

Menem met briefly with U.S. President Bush here yesterday when the gathered heads of state posed for a press photo session. Menem and Bush shook hands and exchanged a few words, a preview to their meeting for a working breakfast this morning.

The head of state tried to take a place between Bush and Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney for the photo but was escorted to a pre-arranged place by organizers. Menem was relegated to a back row with various other Latin American leaders.

Menem also met briefly with Romanian President Ion Iliescu and Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere.

The president also held an official meeting with Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari, during which the two Latin American leaders discussed bilateral relations and a joint response to the America's Initiative by U.S. President Bush.

Menem and British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher also met briefly during a reception at the North Lounge of the United Nations last night. This was the first meeting between an Argentine and British head of state since the 1982 South Atlantic conflict. Menem refused to comment on his brief exchange with Thatcher and is expected to see her in other opportunities today.

Menem meets with President Bush this morning. The two will discuss U.S. subsidies which restrict Argentine imports to that country and the Persian Gulf situation.

In the afternoon he will sign a joint declaration by the gathered heads of state which will mark the end of the summit. Each head of state, including Menem, will attend the closing ceremony carrying a child of his or her nationality by the hand.

Comments on Meeting With Bush

PY0110220090 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1430 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Excerpt] New York, 1 Oct (TELAM)—U.S. President George Bush will visit Argentina on 5 December. A round of bilateral talks is scheduled during his visit to discuss the problem of subsidies to the Argentine exportable products. This announcement was made by Argentine President Carlos Menem at the end of a 35-minute meeting with his U.S. counterpart at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel in New York.

Menem noted Bush's support "for the policies we have implemented in Argentina and for the Argentine Government's decision to send troops to the Persian Gulf."

During a noisy news conference that followed the meeting between the two presidents, Menem said: "We will hold a round of bilateral talks to try to solve the problems affecting our countries," such as the subsidies for the agricultural sector.

Menem said that they "conducted quite a detailed analysis of Bush's Initiative for the Americas which has already been set in motion."

In this regard, Menem said that "the United States looks very favorably upon the integration process being carried out by Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay, and Paraguay, and the possibility that Chile may join this process."

Asked whether they talked about the fact that the ruling party sectors oppose the policies they are implementing in Argentina and the United States, a smiling Menem answered: "I thanked Bush for following the same policies we have been implementing in Argentina for one year now," alluding to the tax and gas-price increases ordered last night by the U.S. Administration.

Referring to the meeting that was held on the 35th floor of the Waldorf Astoria, Menem said: "It was a very friendly meeting." In response to a question, Menem denied having asked Bush for specific support for Argentina's development. He said: "Without my asking him, Bush voiced his support for the policies we are implementing."

Commenting on the situation in the Persian Gulf, Menem said that Bush "voiced his pleasure over the Argentine Government decision" to send troops who will join the UN-ordered blockage against Iraq. In response to a U.S. journalist, Menem said that the Argentine people support this decision.

"There is opposition, he noted, as occurs everywhere, but most of the people and the military agree with our decision."

When asked whether he was ready to used the force against Iraq, Menem said: "We have sent this contingent of professional military to consolidate the embargo, but I can not voice an opinion on events that have not occurred."

Menem said that he agreed with President Bush "that Iraqi President (Saddam Husayn) should be stopped." He said that the Argentine decision will not make the U.S. Administration give preferential treatment to Argentina. In this regard he said that Argentina "has rejoined the international community after many years of frustration and isolation that led the country to a critical situation."

Menem said that the United States and almost all the other countries that attended the UNICEF-sponsored meeting at the United Nations "approved the Argentine attitude. Well, President Bush does not want the Persian Gulf crisis to be seen as a confrontation between the United States and the Arab countries."

Menem added: "We are convinced that the United States is not against the Arab countries as mass media has reported. The entire world is against one person, against a chief of state who has blatantly violated international law."

Concerning President Bush's attitude on the Argentine position, Menem said: "This is not President Bush's first expression in this regard, but his wide and firm position has surprised everybody." [passage omitted]

Kuwaiti Amir Notes Interest in Investments

PY0210022890 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2114 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] New York, 1 Oct—Jabir al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah, the exiled Kuwaiti chief of state, today thanked President Menem for the deployment of troops to the Persian Gulf. He also voiced his interest in discussing possible investments in Argentina.

Menem met the amir this noon at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel following a meeting with President Bush. The meeting lasted more than the time scheduled and delayed by almost an hour the official Argentine delegation's departure for Washington.

Presidential spokesman Humberto Toledo reported that a surprising situation followed the protocol meeting when Economy Minister Antonio Erman Gonzalez and the exiled Kuwaiti commerce minister met in adjacent room to discuss the possibility of investments in Argentina.

Toledo said that the amir thanked Menem for his decision. Menem, in turn, invited the amir to visit Argentina and told him that "there is much to do" in Argentina. The spokesman said that the Kuwaiti amir inmediately showed interest in the possibility of investing in Argentina and asked Gonzalez and the Kuwaiti commerce minister to discuss the matter in more detail.

In view of this initiative, Gonzalez remained some hours more in New York and was unable to leave for Washington on the presidential plane. A few hours later he joined the entourage.

Senate Approves Omnibus Law After Debate

PY2809221690 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Report from Congress by Raul Granero]

[Text] The Senate today passed the generalized value-added tax [VAT] bill, also known as the Omnibus Law. This decision was reached after a heated debate late yesterday when members of the economic team, headed by Carlos Carvallo, held meetings with the Senate in a attempt to reconcile points of view. The legislators wanted to amend the draft bill but the economic team's urgency in approving the project finally prompted the senators to approve the version that had been previously approved by the Chamber of Deputies. Therefore, the draft bill was approved without changes. We should recall that the Omnibus Law makes some exceptions for certain services such as social work, medical and paramedical assistance, all the medical assistance granted by health insurance organizations, private schooling, all stock broker services, as well as transportation of cargo and passangers at a national and international level.

The generalized VAT includes an increase in internal revenue; the exchange of foreign currency; sale, purchase, exchange, or modification of taxes on assets; and it affects Law 23771 which refers to penalties for tax crimes; in other words, a value added to the adjusted fines.

Daily Views Activity, New Laws

PY3009222290 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 29 Sep 90 p 11

[Text] (DYN-NA)—Some 75 non-controversial draft bills, including the new ports law, were passed by the Senate in its last day of sessions yesterday.

The Senate also voted for the creation of the INCUCAL institute [Single Central National Institute for Surgical Removal and Implants—Instituto Nacional Central Unico de Ablacion e Implante] which will monitor organ transplants in Argentina.

The Senate opened deliberations at 7.15pm and voted the promotions of Joint Chief of Staff head Emilio Osses and the heads of the Army, Air Force and Navy, General Martin Bonnet, Brigadier Jose Julia and Admiral Jorge Ferrer.

It also voted favourably for an investigation into Central Bank losses totalling nearly 70 billion dollars in the last ten years and approved compensation pay for persons held by the executive branch during the past military government.

The Lower House of Congress, meanwhile, opened its last day of ordinary sessions 13 hours late last night. The deputies had been set to open sessions at 9am, but only did so at nearly 10pm with 129 legislators present.

"We don't want to come out in the newspapers," Justicialist Deputy Jorge Matzkin said by way of explanation for the late start.

The deputies began discussing the extension of the national economic emergency law last night in a heated debate which the Peronists wanted to keep out of the public eye—thus the late start.

Majority leader Jose Luis Manzano and Radical bloc leader Cesar Jaroslavsky agreed to open sessions at 10pm, knowing that it would take at least an hour to read the list of 150 bills to be discussed.

The domestic security draft law, the discussion of the "per saltum" rights of the Supreme Court and of the borders of the new Tierra del Fuego province were still considered too thorny for discussion last night.

Both houses of Congress will reopen for extraordinary sessions in November with an agenda [agreed] upon by legislators and the executive branch during negotiations this week.

Presidential Chief of Staff Eduardo Bauza met with Lower House Speaker Alberto Pierri and Senate chairman Eduardo Menem at Congress at 5pm yesterday.

Bauza said the government will send the 1990 National Budget to the Lower House in mid-October, so that it can be voted into law as soon as extraordinary sessions open in November.

Yesterday's late start angered deputies from the Democratic Centre Union (UCeDe) and other small parties, who drifted aimlessly through the building waiting for the Peronists and Radicals to agree on laws to be discussed on the last day of sessions.

In the early hours of yesterday morning, the Senate also approved the generalized IVA value-added-tax law, which is expected to bring in added revenues of 500 million dollars yearly.

VAT Expected To Increase Revenues

PY3009223490 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 29 Sep 90 p 5

[Text] (NA)—The extension of the VAT value-added tax to services, made law yesterday through ratification by the Senate, could increase the Tax Bureau's revenues by 400 or 500 million dollars a year, Public Revenue Under-Secretary Raul Cuello claimed.

Cuello specified that VAT would now apply to all registered professions, including lawyers, engineers and doctors, which would bring in an additional half a million tax contributors.

The bill was approved yesterday afternoon after a rancorous debate between government and opposition Senators. Radical Senator Juan Trilla questioned the measure's viability, asking "how will Tax Bureau collect taxes from another half a million people if it doesn't have inspectors now to control tax evasion."

Budget and Treasury Commission President Peronist Senator Juan Carlos Romero, however, also had some criticisms of the VAT extension bill, as modified by Congress. He said that the government was preparing a "rebuttal" of the clauses voted out by the deputies.

Lower House Inaction 'Unheard of' in Congress

PY3009224690 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 30 Sep 90 p 4

[Text] (DYN-NA)—Congress will reopen for extraordinary sessions on November 1, Justicialist Senator Oraldo Britos announced yesterday. Both houses of Congress ended ordinary sessions yesterday, the Senate having approved "90 percent" of the draft bills sent by the executive branch, Britos said.

The Lower House of Congress ended sessions at 11am yesterday with only 28 deputies in attendance. "I'm sure there's quorum at Aeroparque," said an employee at Congress, alluding to the fact most of the deputies were probably at the airport waiting to board planes to their home provinces.

The deputies failed to pass over 100 bills in their last session, something unheard of in Argentine parliamentary history.

Deliberations had opened at 10pm Friday night and lasted until 3.30am yesterday, when they were suspended until 11am. But by 12.48pm yesterday only six of the 232 deputies had turned up and, despite the lack of quorum, deliberations were opened by Democratic Centre Union (UCeDe) Deputy Francisco Durnona y Vedia, in the absence of Speaker Alberto Pierri.

Radical Minority Leader Cesar Jaroslavsky arrived at 1.07pm saying: "What's this charade? Who thought up this madness?"

Speaker Pierri arrived while Tucuman Deputy Exequiel Avila Gallo was condemning President Carlos Menem for trying to "close Congress on advice from his friend Bernardo (Neustadt)," a well-known TV journalist.

Pierri officially closed sessions at 1.45pm, with only 28 deputies present.

Rural Society Leader Pledges Loyal Support

PY3009213890 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 29 Sep 90 p 5

[Text] (NA-DYN)—New Argentine Rural Society President Eduardo de Zavalia yesterday proclaimed that the Rural Society would continue to give its "most honest and loyal" support to the government's economic plan.

"It would be highly treasonable," he continued, "after having advocated a free market, no price controls and

privatization for years, not to back a government which is carrying out these policies."

He denied the charge, however, that he was an "ultra-Menemist," and stressed that he was not a member of the Peronist party.

De Zavalia was elected to the post of Rural Society President last night, replacing outgoing President Guillermo Alchouron, with an overwhelming majority of 2,467 votes over the opposing candidate Eduardo Gutierrez's 1,269.

De Zavalia's running mate Enrique Crotto, who was contesting for the Vice-Presidency of the Rural Society, trounced his opponent Carlos Gomez Algaz by 2,457 votes to 1,278.

According to De Zavalia, the Rural Action electoral list he headed in this nationwide rural election, triumphed over the rival Rural Union Committee list throughout the country except in Tierra del Fuego, by a margin of between 66 and 68 percent of the votes cast.

Questioned about the need to reactivate the economy, de Zavalia responded that it was difficult to combat hyper-inflation without "a measure of recession."

But he added that "we should strive our hardest to shorten this period and begin to ease the variables which will enable economic growth."

De Zavalia underlined that the government's present economic task was primarily fiscal, specifying that this entailed cutting public sector costs and reducing especially burdensome taxes such as the fuel tax.

If these objectives were achieved, he said, "it's highly likely that economic recovery will commence."

De Zavalia is scheduled to leave today for the U.S. where he will also be expecting President Carlos Menem's arrival from Venezuela.

He will coordinate especially with Agriculture Under-Secretary Felipe Sola, in a series of talks with the Bush administration and members of Congress aimed at elaborating the Argentine position on the current Uruguay round of the GATT talks.

Consortium Makes Down Payment on Airline

PY0110000490 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 29 Sep 90 p 1

[Text] (DYN)—The Ibera/Cielos Del Sur bidder consortium yesterday made the expected 130-million-dollar deposit at the New York branch of the Banco de la Nacion Argentina (BNA) as down payment for the purchase of the state-owned Aerolineas Argentinas, BNA President Hugo Santilli announced yesterday.

The Argentine government now plans to hand over the airline in 30 or 40 days' time, according to statements by Public Works Ministry State Reform Committee Chairman Emilio Fluixa.

On taking over the airline, though, the bidders will have to deposit the 2.01 billion dollars in foreign debt papers—of which First Boston has already collected 700 million—which the bidders offered as part of their payment for the airline.

September Inflation Rate at 16.1 Percent

PY3009214090 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 29 Sep 90 p 5

[Excerpt] (DYN-NA)—September's rate of inflation was 16.1 percent according to figures released yesterday by the Institute of Social and Economic Policy (IPES), with a gentle one-percent rise recorded for the last week.

The IPS report stated that consumer prices increased by 12.9 percent point to point. The lag effect for October was predicted at a modest two percent, which would "enable single digit inflation in the following month." [passage omitted]

Bolivia

Minister on IMF Agreement, U.S. Talks

PY0210021490 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Text] The Bolivian Government on 24 September signed a letter of intent with the IMF regarding a structural adjustment loan of $60 million. The loan, which will be used for backing the balance of payments, will be disbursed over a period ending in March 1991. The document was signed in Washington by Planning and Coordination Minister Enrique Garcia, Finance Minister David Blanco, and IMF executives. The IMF board is scheduled to approve the loan on 12 October.

This information was released by Minister Blanco during a news conference this afternoon.

[Begin Blanco recording] We have received a suggestion. I would like to explain to the public the reason for this change in the situation. It is true, I mean, in June we detected concern among the public and in the press about our underdevelopment in the financial and economic fields and about our possible inability to reach our economic targets. In the opinion of the IMF, this situation has undergone a total change between June and the end of September. [end recording]

Concerning the negotiations over the debt owed to the United States, the minister said that the Bolivian Government submitted in Washington a proposal in line with the Bush initiative.

[Begin Blanco recording, in progress] ...in which we would like to use the Initiative for the Americas to

reduce the debt obligations that we have to the United States, which as you know, [words indistinct] amount to $370 million. The central objective of this proposal is to support the preservation of the environment and implement development projects in those areas that affect the environment. You have witnessed the drama of the indigenous groups who visited us and whose situation has become a matter of world concern. In this regard, we proposed an 89-percent reduction of the debt. [end recording]

Visiting Cuban Labor Leader Expresses Solidarity

PY0210023890 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Text] Joaquin Bernal Camero, secretary of international relations of the labor central of Havana [title as heard], has said that the situation of Bolivian workers is difficult because of the country's socioeconomic problems and that their struggle has the Cuban people's broad support.

The Cuban leader today returned to his country after several days in Bolivia where he met with representatives of the Bolivian Labor Confederation and with Oscar Zamora, minister of labor and development.

Bernal Camero said that Latin American workers are waging a just struggle for their socioeconomic and political demands, but they do not always reach their objectives.

He added that Cuba appreciates the combative attitude of Bolivian workers and is aware of the problems they are confronting.

[Begin Bernal Camero recording] It is quite a difficult situation. Workers are facing several problems that exist not only in Bolivia but also in other Latin American countries. This has naturally led the Cuban worker central and other Latin American labor centrals to express our solidarity with the Bolivian workers' struggle. [end recording]

Brazil

Collor Meets Bush, Leaves for Czechoslovakia

PY0110161790 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] During a meeting with President Fernando Collor in New York, U.S. President George Bush confirmed that he will visit Brazil in December. The two chiefs of state reviewed issues being discussed at the UN General Assembly.

The presidents took their time discussing the Persian Gulf crisis. President Bush said that the United States does not expect anything in particular from Brazil except solidarity; he did not ask for Brazilian participation or troops. The two presidents expressed the hope that the measures adopted by the United Nations will lead to a resolution.

President Collor brought up the foreign debt issue, noting that Brazil had signed a letter of intent with the IMF and is preparing to initiate negotiations with creditors.

After meeting and having lunch with President Bush, President Collor departed for Czechoslovakia, with a stopover to take place in Paris.

President Collor will open the Brazilian industrial and commercial fair tomorrow in Prague, where the city of Brasilia and its founder, Juscelino Kubitschek, a Czechoslovakian descendant, will be featured.

Marcio Cotrim, Federal District secretary of culture, said that the fair will be a unique opportunity to show off the capital of Brazil, which UNESCO declared to be a part of mankind's cultural patrimony.

[Begin Cotrim recording] This was an opportunity to take to Czechoslovakia some material on Brasilia, particularly a maquette of the city, which is the most modern and best designed in the world. This opportunity arose due to the opening of the Brazilian industrial and commercial fair that President Fernando Collor will inaugurate on 2 October in Prague. But Brasilia's participation in this event is intended to represent the city's respect for Czechoslovakia, the birthplace of the Kubitschek family. [end recording]

According to Mario Cotrim, the Brazilian delegation will make contact with Czechoslovakian authorities to expand cultural exchange between the two countries.

Discuss Debt; Bush Visit Announced

PY0210013690 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 1 Oct 90 p 9

[Special report by Heloisa Vilela]

[Text] New York—During his 40-minute talk with Brazilian President Fernando Collor, U.S. President George Bush announced that he will visit Brazil on 2 December. He also stated that he has managed to finalize the U.S. budget negotiations cutting $500 billion off the public deficit over the next 10 [as published] years, an action that will prompt the lowering of international interest rates thus easing the foreign debt burden of the debtor countries.

According to Presidential Press Secretary Claudio Huberto, Bush endorsed the Brazilian Government decision to pay the country's foreign debt without sacrificing economic growth.

President Bush, who was accompanied by Secretary of State James Baker; Bernard Aronson, assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs; and Brent Scowcroft, assistant to the president for national security affairs, extended his meeting with the Brazilian president at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel by 10 minutes. Jose Goldemberg,

secretary of science and technology, Brazilian Ambassador in Washington Marcilio Marques Moreira, and Brazilian Foreign Minister Francisco Rezek also attended the meeting.

According to Goldemberg, President Collor raised the Iraq issue and confirmed to Bush his intention to send to congress a bill prohibiting people who have access to secret information from working for foreign countries, as is the case of Brigadier Hugo Piva who is currently working in Iraq.

Report Recommends Investment in Nuclear Sector

PY0110224190 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 30 Sep 90 p 58

[Report by Monica Medeiros]

[Text] The secretariat of strategic affairs and the various organs that make up the work group of the National Nuclear Energy Program (Pronem) have issued a secret report, a copy of which has been exclusively obtained by O GLOBO. The report recommends President Fernando Collor to authorize the investment of $7.012 billion in the nuclear sector before 2015. The report recommends earmarking $3.554 billion for direct investment and more than $1.519 to pay costs in the field of industry and services (to complete the construction of nuclear power plants and factories). The report recommends earmarking more than $1.939 billion to create a "National Reactors Park" and to master the full nuclear fuel cycle.

The work group, which operates under the coordination of Secretary of Strategical Affairs Pedro Paulo Leoni, recommends President Collor to make these investments which would allow the country to develop, by 2015, the nuclear technology necessary for the various nuclear uses. The group also recommends increasing investments in nuclear projects.

The 63-page report and its addenda was written after a little over two months of work by a group of selected civilian and military nuclear scientists. The report has been stored on the president's personal computer and will be used to make a decision that will shape the future of nuclear energy in our country. Despite the clear and objective style used in its four chapters, the report does not provide the president with any information on the quantity of strategic material that will be produced, information that the president might use in making his final decision. The strategic material consists of plutonium and uranium enriched to higher concentrations that can be produced by the (military or civil) reactors that are being built or are being designed. Such reactors are outside international supervision because they have been developed exclusively using Brazilian technology.

The report states that there will be a transition from the current hydroelectric power generation system to a nuclear thermoelectric generation system between 2000 and 2010. The report recommends that nuclear power generation be implemented, preferably using Brazilian-made power plants.

The report has a nationalistic approach. It recommends continuing the research to obtain a higher degree of technological independence. The report stresses that the local effort, which consists of the parallel nuclear program, has produced much more technological progress than the Brazil-FRG cooperation accord.

The report regards the nuclear nonproliferation treaty and other similar treaties as discriminatory and as factors that have hindered the development of the countries of the so-called Third World. For this reason the group recommends that Brazil should not sign that type of treaty.

The work group, which was created through a decree signed by President Collor just 12 days after his inauguration, recommends keeping the nuclear sector outside the government privatization plan. The report emphasizes the importance of all the projects designed by the Armed Forces but stresses that priority attention should be given to the efforts that the Navy and the Air Force have made to enrich uranium using ultracentrifuges and laser technology.

The report recommends that the president should work jointly with Congress, stressing the need to inform society on nuclear matters, provided industrial secrets are protected. The report says:

"Brazilian nuclear activities, which are legitimate from a scientific and technological viewpoint, should also be legitimate from a social and a political viewpoint (...) otherwise, future resistance to nuclear activities could paradoxically restrict the possibilities of improving society's living standards because of the lack of alternative ways of generating power."

The report said that international cooperation, especially with Germany, should be promoted and encouraged despite difficulties over the transfer of technology. "The completion of the nuclear power plants that are being built and the intensification of nuclear cooperation in other projects can help Brazil achieve, at least partially, the originally envisaged objectives," the report states.

Spain, IDB To Disburse Loans by End of Year

PY0110194590 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 30 Sep 90 p 3

[Report by special correspondent Cida Fontes]

[Excerpt] New York—President Collor de Mello talked yesterday with Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez and with Enrique Iglesias, president of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), about the loans that Brazil has negotiated.

Felipe Gonzalez promised that within the next few months he will close agreements on loans for specific

projects in the public sector that total $5 billion, loans similar to those reached with Mexico, Argentina, and Venezuela. IDB Enrique Iglesias confirmed that $1-billion worth of loans for the social, technological, and industrial sectors will be disbursed by the end of this year.

At the start of their 30-minute talk, Collor offered Gonzalez an Hoyo de Monterey Havana cigar. They resumed the conversation on a comprehensive economic cooperation agreement that they began last February in Madrid. The technical negotiations are being conducted by the respective foreign ministries. Collor and Gonzalez decided yesterday that a Brazilian delegation should go to Spain to close the agreement under which Brazil will obtain commercial credits and government loans that will be used for public sector projects.

The agreement foresees the creation of joint ventures [two preceding words given in English] and the financing of scientific and cultural projects. Felipe Gonzalez also invited Collor to participate in a summit of chiefs of state and governments of the Americas and Portugal that will held in Spain in 1992 to commemorate the fifth centennial of the discovery of America.

Collor and Gonzalez also reviewed other topics like the presence of Spain in the EEC and the prospects that Brazil, like Chile, will be able to sell its products to EEC countries through cooperation agreements.

The Brazilian president then spoke for 15 minutes with IDB President Enrique Iglesias who has been asked by President George Bush to implement Plan Enterprise for the Americas among the Latin American countries.

Iglesias said: "We will disburse by the end of this year a loan worth nearly $1 billion that will be very significant for the IDB and for Brazil." He added that these resources will be invested in technological, industrial, and social programs—especially programs for children. [passage omitted]

USSR Could Be Partner in Space Projects

PY0110161690 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 29 Sep 90 p 9

[Report by Noenio Spinola]

[Text] Moscow—Aeronautics Minister Socrates da Costa Monteiro yesterday made a comparison to show why the Soviets could be interested in launching rockets from Alcantara Base in Maranhao State. He said: "The same rocket that is launched from Baykonur with two satellites could carry four satellites if our installations are used."

The minister made a point of stressing the economic and commercial aspects of his visit to (Glavcosmos) and other space agency installations during his official visit to the USSR, the first after President Fernando Collor's inauguration. Yesterday he visited a missile factory that is now being switched over to civilian uses. Today he will meet with Defense Minister Dmitriy Yazov. "Partners capable of providing resources for completion of the Brazilian launching base will be welcomed," he said.

Da Costa Monteiro also answered questions from Brazilian and local reporters at a meeting sponsored by Ambassador Rego Barros. Today he will visit an air base where the Soviets will display the state-of-the-art MiG-29 and Sukhoi military jets.

A JORNAL DO SOLDADO representative asked him whether a visit of this type would have been possible some time ago. The answer was sharp and direct: "No." In fact, thinking of launching SS-18's or SS-20's from Alcantara 10 years ago would have triggered a crisis similar to the Cuban crisis because the conversion of long-range rockets into satellite launchers could hardly be digested in Washington, whose defense strategy includes the SS-18, SS-20, and other long-range rockets capable of carrying nuclear weapons.

Soviet journalists, some of them representing military publications, seemed surprised when the aeronautics minister announced that Brazil has lived in peace with its neighbors for 120 years, and that its Armed Forces could fit into Maracana stadium.

Polls Predict Gubernatorial Results

PY0110150090 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 30 Sep 90 pp 12-13

[Editorial Report] Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese on 30 September on pages 12 and 13 carries a 1200-word report on predictions for the results of the 3 October gubernatorial races in Brazil. The predictions are based on IBOPE [Brazilian Public Opinion and Statistics Institute] polls, and the report includes bar graphs showing the candidates' standings in the state gubernatorial races.

Based on the poll results, seven Brazilian states are predicted to elect governors without runoff elections. The top three contenders in these states are as follows:

Amapa:	
Anibal Barcelos	58%
Liberal Front Party [PFL]	
Gilson Rocha	18%
Workers Party [PT]	
Jose Maria Papaleo	7%
Amazonas:	
Gilberto Mestrinho	52%
Brazilian Democratic Movement Party [PMDB]	
Wilson Alecrim	22%
Brazilian Social Democracy Party [PSDB]	
Mario Frota	6%
Ceara:	
Ciro Gomes (PSDB)	50%

Paulo Lustosa (PFL)	27%
Joao Alfredo (PT)	4%
Mato Grosso:	
Jaime Campos (PFL)	58%
Agripino Bonilha Filho (PMDB)	7%
Luiz Alberto Scaloppe (PT)	6%
Mato Grosso do Sul:	
Pedro Pedrossian	53%
Brazilian Labor Party [PTB]	
Gandi Jamil	21%
Democratic Workers Party [PDT]	
Manoel Bronze (PT)	5%
Rio de Janeiro:	
Leonel Brizola (PDT)	56%
Jorge Bittar (PT)	11%
Nelson Carneiro (PMDB)	9%
Sergipe:	
Joao Alves (PFL)	75%
Jose Eduardo Dutra (PT)	8%
Gilberto Selles	1%

The IBOPE polls also show that eight states will probably elect a governor in the first election round. The top three contenders in those states are:

Bahia:	
Antonio Carlos Magalhaes (PFL)	43%
Roberto Santos (PMDB)	25%
Lidice da Mata	5%
Communist Party of Brazil [PCdoB]	
Federal District:	
Joaquim Roriz	45%
Workers Renewal Party [PTR]	
Elmo Serejo	11%
Liberal Party [PL]	
Mauricio Correa (PDT)	9%
Piaui:	
Freitas Neto (PFL)	44%
Wall Ferraz (PSDB)	38%
Antonio Neto (PT)	4%
Maranhao:	
Joao Castelo	44%
National Reconstruction Party [PRN]	
Edison Lobao (PFL)	29%
Conceicao Andrade	10%
Brazilian Socialist Party [PSB]	
Rio Grande do Norte:	
Jose Agripino Maia (PFL)	43%
Salomao Gurgel (PT)	6%
Ana Catarina Alves (PTR)	2%
Goias:	
Iris Rezende (PMDB)	44%
Paulo Roberto Cunha	28%
Christian Democratic Party [PDC]	
Valdi Camarcio (PT)	4%
Santa Catarina:	
Vilson Kleinubing (PFL)	41%
Paulo Afonso Vieira (PMDB)	20%
Nelson Wedekin (PDT)	8%
Paraiba:	
Wilson Braga (PDT)	45%
Ronaldo Lima (PMDB)	30%
Joao Agripino Neto (PRN)	8%

According to the results of the IBOPE polls, a runoff will take place in 10 states. The top three contenders in those states are as follows:

Acre:	
Jorge Viana (PT)	23%
Edmundo Pintos	21%
Social Democratic Party [PDS]	
Rubem Branquinho (PL)	17%
Rio Grande do Sul:	
Alceu Collares (PDT)	30%
Nelson Marchezan (PDS)	27%
Jose Fogaca (PMDB)	15%
Parana:	
Roberto Requiao (PMDB)	31%
Jose Carlos Martinez (PRN)	22%
Jose Richa (PSDB)	21%
Minas Gerais:	
Helio Garcia (PRS) [expansion unknown]	33%
Pimenta da Veiga (PSDB)	14%
Helio Costa (PRN)	12%
Espirito Santo:	
Jose Ignacio	29%
Social Workers Party [PST]	
Albuino Azeredo (PDT)	29%
Rogerio Medeiros (PT)	5%
Sao Paulo:	
Paulo Maluf (PDS)	41%
Luiz Antonio Fleury Filho (PMDB)	16%

Mario Covas (PSDB)	15 %
Tocantins:	
Moises Avelino (PMDB)	43 %
Moises Abraao (PDC)	23 %
Ari Valadao (PDS)	11 %
Para:	
Jader Barbalho (PMDB)	40 %
Sahid Xerfan (PRN)	34 %
Almir Gabriel (PSDB)	12 %
Roraima:	
Romero Juca Filho (PFL)	43 %
Ottomar Pinto (PMDB)	35 %
Getulio Cruz	10 %
Rondonia:	
Olavo Pires (PTB)	28 %
Osvaldo Pianna (PTB)	13 %
Valdir Raulp	13 %

IBOPE polls also show that there will be no runoff election in two states, but the race will be between two candidates. In Alagoas, the race will be between Renan Calheiros (PRN) and Geraldo Bulhoes (PFL). Calheiros, with 41 percent, is the favorite. Bulhoes is second with 27 percent.

In Pernambuco, the race will be between Joaquim Francisco (PFL), with 45 percent, and Jarbas Vasconcelos (PMDB) with 37 percent.

Chile

President Aylwin Addresses UN General Assembly

PY0110110090 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish 1501 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Address by President Patricio Aylwin Azocar to the 45th UN General Assembly in New York—live]

[Text] Mr. President, I want to extend to this assembly, with joy and excitement, the authentic voice of all Chilean people who have just recovered democracy. I am pleased to congratulate you on having been chosen to conduct the 45th UN General Assembly.

I also want to congratulate Ambassador Joseph Garba, of Nigeria [as heard], whose term is ending, for his positive and dynamic performance as president.

I also want to greet UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar. We are all proud of the prestige this great Peruvian diplomat has brought the United Nations. All Chileans were very honored by his recent visit to our country.

As you know, throughout its history Chile has been distinguished by its spirit of liberation, respect for law, and solid democracy. We have recovered those values, and we have done so in peace, with no rancor, looking toward the future, and with a broad feeling of reconciliation and hope.

The war situation that divided Chileans into friends and foes has been overcome by a peace in which we are all recognized as fellow citizens, regardless of our differences.

The common Chilean citizen is currently leading a better life in a climate of freedom and security—with no fear of the past and with happiness and hope—because he feels he is respected and thought of as a human being, who has been called on to participate with his own contribution to the common task of building the fatherland's future.

On resuming its tradition of a democratic people, Chile, on my behalf, wants to greet and extend its recognition to the United Nations and to all nations and people throughout the world who helped the Chilean democrats in their struggle to defend man's dignity and recover liberty.

Human rights are the basis of relations between Chile and the United Nations. From the very beginning, we have tirelessly promoted the universal human rights declaration. We have extended this principle beyond the physical protection of a man to include his political, social, economic, and cultural rights as well. We advocate respect for these principles. Human rights have never had borders in the Chilean democracy.

But, in the recent past, the situation was quite the opposite. When serious violations were taking place in my country, the United Nations always closely followed what was happening in Chile. This oversight attitude, expressed through repeated criticism of the situation at that time, was a valuable contribution to recovering democracy. Today I want to publicly express our gratitude for that contribution.

This experience has placed us under an obligation. We know very well that unrestricted respect for human rights is a universal obligation that constitutes the moral and legal essence of all civilized coexistence, both at national and international levels.

Defense of these rights is a continuous task that must never be undertaken with discriminatory objectives or at the service of foreign policy objectives. Human rights must be protected at all times and everywhere. Therefore, We believe that it is important to inform the international community about the spirit that inspires us to allay the wounds inflicted on the nation as a result of human rights violations in the past.

We are carrying out this task with prudence, equity, and a great sense of responsibility. The truth about what happened must be known and clarified so it will not indefinitely prolong a permanent source of suffering.

However, we do not want to stop the clock of history or seek worthless revanche. We must seek the truth, and with it, an authentic reconciliation among all Chileans.

To achieve this, my government has decided to create a special Truth and Reconciliation Commission, whose objective is to investigate the most serious human rights violations. This commission is compiling all existing information and, in a relatively short time, will submit a report.

Given its institutional nature, this commission will by no means replace the courts. The commission, which is made up of people who have the highest proven moral and national prestige, is working with absolute independence, and with the cooperation of different sectors of the nation.

Through this commission, and with the goodwill of all, we hope to satisfy the Chilean people's desire for peace and understanding based on truth, justice, and reconciliation.

Under the new process that is beginning, Chile must consolidate democracy as a means of political coexistence based on freedom of the people, and reconcile it with economic growth and social justice. This is a common challenge for all developing countries.

Experience has demonstrated that economic prosperity can exist for a while without democracy, but not permanently because the lack of liberty favors abuse and exploitation of the weak—namely, of the poor by the most powerful. It smothers the initiatives and participation of many and creates a climate of oppression and a subsequent rebellion that will undermine stability.

Democracy is possible without economic growth, but efforts to improve the poorest sectors' living conditions that seek more equality between all sectors without an effective increase in available assets—regardless of how well intended they may be—will surely lead to a serious economic crisis that will undermine the entire social system and, of course, democracy itself.

Democracy is also possible without social justice, but regardless of how prosperous this democracy may be, it will be continuously threatened by the natural dissatisfaction of the poorest sectors, who will demand equality. This dissatisfaction can lead to agitation capable of disrupting the economic development process and undermining the very stability of the government.

To achieve peace and stability within a national coexistence, it is essential to seek political democracy, economic growth, and social justice. This is the task to which all Chileans are committed.

To succeed in this undertaking, not only do we need to join and coordinate our internal efforts, but we also need to count on the understanding and cooperation of our friends in the world, especially of major developed countries. Our strongest efforts can fail if solidarity and equality do not prevail in international economic relations.

This is a vital problem for the entire developing world. If we want to be faithful to the principles that inspired the creation of this organization, we must maintain the idea that world peace is intimately linked with freedom, socioeconomic progress, and improvement of the living standards of all nations around the world.

While there are nations that suffer starvation and misery, or while there are nations that do not suffer such dramatic circumstances but that collide with insurmountable barriers in their efforts to grow, the cause of peace will be in jeopardy.

The work of various specialized UN organizations and the international financial system and cooperation programs between industrialized countries and developing nations have undoubtedly made a significant contribution to overcoming this problem.

Yet I would like to call for the attention of the most conscientious and responsible leaders of major developed nations, asking them to properly appraise the consequences their decisions can have on the strengthening or weakening of freedom, justice, progress, and peace in our world.

We harbor the hope that an effective consolidation of the new atmosphere of peace between the superpowers will allow the richer nations to rechannel funds that they previously used for defense purposes, earmarking them for objectives that will promote socioeconomic progress in the developing world.

We reiterate the general principles that have traditionally shaped Chilean foreign policy, principles that are based on a broad national consensus and are intimately identified with the values, tenets, and objectives that constitute the essential foundation of the United Nations.

Within this framework, Chilean foreign policy has the following major objectives: To recover our fatherland's place in the international community through realistic action based on the above-mentioned principles and values, placing particular emphasis on the preservation of human rights; to give our foreign relations a universal approach from a political, economic, social, and cultural viewpoint; to promote Latin American economic integration and political accord, including the development of modern concepts of security that may strengthen peace and democracy in the region; to develop an open, modern foreign economic policy through which we may join the active centers of technological development and growth; to foster relations of understanding and cooperation with developing countries; and to strengthen multilateral organizations and Chile's participation in their initiatives.

The world is moving toward a new international system. We hail the consolidation of freedom, the stricter preservation of human rights, and the expansion of democracy as auspicious signals of mankind's progress.

Today, more than ever, we have to intensify the struggle against authoritarianism of all origins because it provides the ideological justification for dictatorships. Domination through force cannot be legitimate. Full

respect for the essential liberties of man is an essential condition for civilized society.

This is why my government has resolutely supported and assigned top importance to the study of appropriate methods and means for strengthening the efficiency of the principle that calls for authentic, regular elections. This study is being undertaken by the human rights commission.

We feel that the end of the cold war, the search for accord, and the atmosphere of friendship and cooperation between the superpowers are extraordinarily positive facts.

We give our warmest welcome to a united Germany and to the new European democracies. This spirit should spread to all nations, ending multiple conflicts and tensions that have existed for years in various parts of the globe.

This new situation has strengthened the political and moral unity of the United Nations, facilitating dialogue in the search for improvement of the international situation. This is the right time for moving forward, more quickly and with more determination, toward general and total disarmament, toward a ban on nuclear weapons and nuclear tests, and toward a comprehensive commitment to avoid the use of chemical and bacteriological weapons.

This spirit, however, is jeopardized by the risk of replacing the cold war with intensified regional, ethnic, or religious conflicts. This is an unacceptable threat.

The United Nations should stay alert for this type of situation, operating according to its charter whenever it seems necessary.

The unanimous international condemnation of the invasion of Kuwait reflects these wishes and principles. It also reflects the just indignation and repudiation of that action, which is a blatant violation of international law and a serious threat to the recently born era of peace and cooperation.

Chile has fully supported and enacted the resolutions that the United Nations Security Council adopted on the subject.

My government also reiterates that it is convinced that Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 provide an appropriate framework for guaranteeing, on the one hand, Israel's right to live within safe and internationally recognized borders, and on the other, the Palestinian people's right to build a sovereign state.

There are other centers of tension that are sources of international concern. We trust that the situation in these centers will be resolved through peaceful means, in line with the principles of the UN charter.

Chile also condemns all forms of racism and racial discrimination, especially the infamous apartheid regime. Chile fervently hopes that the initiatives designed with a political imagination and will by President Frederik de Klerk's government and African National Congress leader Nelson Mandela will lead to the definitive termination of apartheid through peaceful negotiations leading to construction of a democracy without racism and discrimination and based on observance of the UN Charter and of the universal declaration of human rights.

Today, 45 years after the founding of the United Nations, we can see with satisfaction the transcendental work the organization has performed in the area of decolonization. Full enforcement of the declaration of decolonization should end along with colonialism before we enter the next millennium.

Mr. President, in the new world context, each region should promote collective security to reduce distrust and strengthen peace within existing international agreements and treaties.

We want to emphasize the extraordinary effort that several governments have made, with the help of the Organization of American States and the United Nations, to bring more tranquillity to Central America.

Chile has the privilege of being located in a region where common sense and wisdom have prevailed, as is shown by the 1984 signing of a peace and friendship treaty between Chile and Argentina, and by the growing cooperation between our two countries.

Chile has traditionally supported cooperation and participation in Latin America. We deem it essential for promoting regional and subregional political relations.

The creation of major economic blocs in other parts of the globe compels us to talk among ourselves and to consult with other blocs about the best method for undergoing these new experiences, avoiding the risks of protectionism that are involved.

Our region is experiencing a major period of opening and modernization of its economic structures. This has brought about adjustment and various internal changes that we should take into account in designing pragmatic cooperation methods.

We want stable, durable trade and investment agreements that will allow us to overcome traditional barriers in our reciprocal exchange. We have already taken major steps toward that goal with several countries, and we will continue to move along this course.

No nation can be left outside the world movements that are fostering the liberalization of markets and the creation of broad economic blocs. This calls for a revision of existing policies and structures in developing regions. It also calls for an effective policy of opening industrialized countries' markets.

Developing nations cannot open their markets and expand their exports if they do not receive reciprocal treatment from more advanced countries.

In recent times, we have been disappointed to see that tariff and nontariff barriers have persisted and even grown stronger, hindering or impeding the export of our products to industrialized countries.

We believe foreign cooperation to make world trade more fluid and to give flexibility to the obligations imposed by servicing of the debt is inevitable.

Based on all of the above, my government has positively considered the so-called Initiative for the Americas recently announced by the U.S. President, which proposes creation of a free trade zone in the Western hemisphere. We believe this is a constructive step that favors the improvement of continental relations.

Mr. President, if the easing of tension actually persists, we hope the United Nations, instead of concentrating its energies on avoiding military confrontation in a divided world, will devote itself to solving our common issues: The struggle against drug addiction; the problems of families, women, youth, the aged, and disabled people; environmental pollution; food shortages; terrorism; health and sanitation; and so many other problems that this organization has to deal with. The solutions we find to these problems will enhance mankind's dignity.

In November 1990, Chile will have the honor of hosting the most important meeting ever held within the Antarctic Treaty on protection of the environment of that frozen continent, an objective to which Chile and all treaty members are deeply committed.

Our planet is undergoing big changes. Today, more than ever, we need imagination and creative solutions to face the international situation. We should search for a practical approach, without leaving aside values and moral principles.

We must preserve our energy for struggling against injustice. Yet, it is also essential to adopt a calm, realistic approach in designing the most efficient formulas for solving those problems.

As part of that realistic approach, we should admit the organization's shortage of funds, in addition to the many varied matters it has to deal with. We, therefore, support maximum streamlining of the UN system, avoiding duplication of efforts, improving coordination among specialized agencies, and improving managerial and financial efficiency, to more rapidly find answers to our problems. In this regard, we resolutely support the work that is being undertaken with these objectives in mind.

In general terms, the advance of democracy has undoubtedly made politics more human. In fact, respect for and protection of people are stronger. People are less vulnerable.

At the same time, there is the absurdity that the social sector has become dehumanized. Equal opportunities have been reduced and people are more defenseless in their environment. It is difficult to find a job and keep it. Income is not enough and vast sectors live in extreme poverty.

We believe that the global social situation is the most pressing problem because it jeopardizes international stability.

It is necessary to urgently impose an international social justice to prevent the economic problems of less developed countries from affecting the political environment and the process of economic modernization and democratization.

We should, therefore, consider social problems from a comprehensive, interconnected viewpoint, giving appropriate priority treatment to the health, education, housing, and employment sectors, and to the role of women, the development of youth, and other related issues. We add our appeal to the other calls that have been made from this rostrum.

The accurate diagnoses and comprehensive analyses included in various UN studies and documents do not provide for concrete proposals for fighting the evils that have undermined society. Consequently, it is very important that we give the General Secretariat the necessary power so that as soon as possible and by making use of the enormous flow of information, concrete action can be proposed to alleviate the most serious social problems.

It is particularly encouraging that the chiefs of state and government of some 70 nations will meet during these days to approve a declaration of political commitment and a plan of action to improve the future of children.

This is an indication that the new conscience we are demanding is already emerging, because each outcast child comes from an outcast—and on many occasions, from a destroyed family. The children who have problems are a symbol of the problems of the world.

We must be aware that the mistreated child of today is the skeptical citizen of tomorrow. In turn, safe and protected children will undoubtedly build the new, harmonious universe all of us want.

Mr. President, the international community is on the eve of a new era. The transcendental change resulting from the end of the cold war has opened vast prospects for increasing and improving international cooperation in the 21st century.

For the first time in its 45 years of operation, the United Nations has the possibility of working on this major task without restrictions imposed by the need to mediate bipolar confrontation, which was reflected in practically all areas and considerably hindered progress toward constructive understanding.

Within this new situation, I bring from the Chilean people a message of peace and optimism. Recent events have encouraged mankind's hopes.

Had it not been for the serious crisis irresponsibly unleashed in the Persian Gulf, a crisis that has caused so much harm in the remotest parts of the world and the dangerous uncertainty in which we are living today, we could have said that the world was moving forward toward a superior stage of humanization, with the strengthening of freedom, justice, and peace.

Civilization has made progress because, in general, the rules that regulate the conduct of men and nations to facilitate coexistence, cooperation, and the common well-being of all mankind have been accepted and respected.

All nations, whether weak or powerful, should understand that the United Nations is willing to preserve these rules. Whoever violates or disregards them should not expect us to be indifferent to such an action, or, much less, that we will approve it.

The United Nations supports and promotes peace, justice, the law, and the well-being and progress of everyone. Such is the basis for national and international common good, and the foundation for a civilized order of mankind.

Mr. President, Chile believes that all of us, the people of the United Nations, on the eve of the 21st century have a future that has obstacles and promising possibilities. The fulfillment of these possibilities will depend on our resolute decision to join efforts, practice solidarity, and strictly observe the principles of the UN Charter.

Within its possibilities and means, Chile has joined the effort for this noble task with faith and enthusiasm. This is a new chance for our generation to build a better world. It is a vital challenge for all governments and people of the earth. Thank you very much. [applause]

Krauss Previews 'Special' Aylwin-Bush Meeting

PY0110182390 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Report by Nelson Oteiza from La Moneda Palace]

[Text] Enrique Krauss, vice president [as heard] of the Republic, has asserted that the economic framework agreement to be signed today by Chile and the United States is clear evidence that the conditions that jeopardized the relationship between the two countries in the past are being gradually overcome. Krauss made this statement at the end of a visit to the Chilean mint, which is celebrating its 247th anniversary.

The vice president was asked his opinion on the meeting that President Patricio Aylwin will hold with U.S. President George Bush in Washington this afternoon and the economic agreements that representatives of the two countries will sign.

[Begin Krauss recording] Undoubtedly, the meeting that President Aylwin and President Bush will hold has special meaning for all Chileans. The fact that the U.S. President has especially invited the Chilean president to discuss bilateral relations and current international problems undoubtedly shows the importance attributed to our country. [end recording]

Silva Cimma on Meeting With Shevardnadze

PY0110180790 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Report by Eduardo Cisterna from New York]

[Text] Chilean President Patricio Aylwin and the ministers accompanying him, including Foreign Minister Enrique Silva Cimma, have held historic meetings here. Radio Nacional—always ready to supply the latest information—was at the historic meeting Minister Silva Cimma held with his USSR counterpart, Eduard Shevardnadze. The last time a Chilean minister held a meeting like this was in 1972. Let's talk about what happened here and listen to Minister Silva Cimma's comments on this very interesting meeting with Shevardnadze.

[Begin recording] [Silva] It was a very cordial meeting. The foreign minister invited us to this meeting and told us that he wanted to settle details on the organization of our relations, which were restored in March when President Patricio Aylwin was sworn in. So far, due to various internal problems, we have not been able to arrange certain details, and this is preventing us from fully restoring relations. Among these problems is finding a place to set up the chancery and the embassy. Because of the new USSR system, they are no longer directly involved in organizing these issues. They are going to intervene, however, so these organizational problems can be solved as soon as possible and we can begin to strengthen our cultural and trade relations to normalize our relations, which have been resumed but have not yet materialized. [end recording]

Correa Denies Government-Judicial Branch Clash

PY0110162990 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] Enrique Correa, minister secretary general of government, has asserted that there has not been any confrontation between the government and the judicial branch. Correa noted that the government respects the decisions of the courts, thus denying the LA EPOCA headlines that claimed that government authorities had clashed with the judicial branch. The article referred to a recent comment by Interior Minister Enrique Krauss on the Supreme Court's decision to confirm an amnesty for people involved in human rights violations.

Regarding National Renewal Party Deputy Alberto Espina's charges that the Lautaro Group is linked to

members of the Shining Path terrorist group, Correa stated that the government has adopted strict measures to control these extremists.

Asked about the decision by Colonia Dignidad not to allow a group of congressmen to visit the site, Correa said that this is a very uncooperative attitude and he believes this visit would go smoothly if Colonia authorities cooperated with public organizations.

Krauss Views Clash Between Powers

PY0110191790 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0128 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] Santiago, 30 Sep (EFE)—Chilean Vice President Enrique Krauss [title as received], today said that there is a power struggle between the Chilean executive branch and the Supreme Court over the interpretation of some court rulings, particularly one issued on 28 September through which the courts reestablished the applicability of the 1978 Amnesty Law.

Krauss is acting as president while President Patricio Aylwin is on an official tour abroad. Krauss told the Chilean press that the enforcement of this law will yield results different from than those anticipated by the Supreme Court. In a recent case the Supreme Court ruled that the crime need not be investigated because it fell under the Amnesty Law.

The Amnesty Law was promulgated by the military regime headed by General Augusto Pinochet. This law pardons all those involved in cases of human rights violation between 11 September 1973 and 1978. Several dozen former security agents who are responsible for the execution and the disappearance of hundreds of opponents of the military regime have benefited under this law.

Discussions on this issue in Chile resumed on 28 September when the Supreme Court, which has been charged with cooperating with the military regime, upheld a ruling on crimes involving members of Pinochet's security organizations.

Krauss said: "We seek to establish the truth. To achieve this we will study every alternative. There are alternative ways to achieve this categorical objective."

He added that Supreme Court rulings only affect the individual cases in which it becomes involved. Krauss also expressed his support for the continuous revision of rulings when he said: "The struggle to be just is always more important than the struggle to uphold the law."

The democratic government that assumed power on 11 March 1990 established a special commission of legal experts to investigate the human rights violations cases that occurred between 11 September 1973 and March 1990.

Justice Minister Francisco Cumplido reported yesterday that a draft bill on the reform of the judicial branch is ready and that it will be submitted to Congress in the next few weeks.

Foreign Debt Negotiator on Sale of Bonds

PY0110202790 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] Chile will save $1,847 million in foreign debt payments between 1991 and 1994 as a result of the agreements reached by the economic team a few days ago. This information was disclosed by Eduardo Aninat, the official Chilean foreign debt negotiator, who said that Chile will save an average of $462 million [figure as heard] per annum. Aninat said that Chile will thus save a lot of dollars.

Annual interest payments have to date totaled $670 million per annum while, as of next year, that amount will drop to $443 million per annum until 1994.

Aninat also disclosed details of the fresh money that Chile has obtained. This money has been obtained in a different way, via a club of banks through which bonds will be sold in Chile.

[Begin Aninat recording] This operation was announced 10 days ago. We are hoping to sell bonds worth $320 million, of which $200 million will be completely sold by early in 1991 and the remaining $120 million by early in 1992. By 28 September, 13 banks were already involved in the operation, and we hope that two more will join this week. A commitment has already been made for $215-million worth of bonds. We still need to finalize some documents and other details, and we still have to sell the remaining $105 million. [end recording]

Eduardo Aninat emphasized that with the sale of bonds worth $320 million Chile will be able to finance a difference of $9 per barrel of oil over the $25 dollars per barrel that was calculated before the negotiation. This means that our country could use these resources to pay an international oil price of $34 per barrel.

Aninat also pointed out that the agreement signed between the Chilean and U.S. Governments this afternoon, which is part of the Initiative for the Americas, also offers the possibility of arranging official credits between the two countries. Aninat added that the Central Bank has stated that the Chilean foreign debt stands at $4.793 billion.

Minister Discards Use of Protectionist Measures

PY0110221390 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] Economy Minister Carlos Ominami today said that the government will not impose protectionist measures in response to the current international crisis.

He added that despite the crisis and the effects of the current macroeconomic policy, Chile will break records in investments.

[Begin Ominami recording] Despite the effects that the current macroeconomic policy may have on the GDP this year, and the additional effects of the increase in oil

prices, we will break records in investments this year. The state of our foreign debt is promising, and we have the confidence of the international financial community. This is shown by the agreement just signed with the creditor banks. [end recording]

Carlos Ominami also said that our country wants to be an active partner in internationalizing the economy, which is one of the main government goals. He emphasized the various aspects of national development that represent a promising future. He added that Chile will maintain the legal norms that regulate foreign investments.

[Begin Ominami recording] We will maintain the legal norms that regulate foreign investments, and we will study ways to bring an international status to our legal norms. We will develop a system of information that will convey to investors a clear picture on the best ways to do business. We will also strengthen the links between the private and the public sector by encouraging new incentives in the areas of research, industrial development, and new industries. [end recording]

Ominami was the main speaker at the opening of the joint meeting of the Chilean-Japanese Business Committee, which is being attended by about 100 Japanese investors. Ominami said that although economic growth was the main aspect of the military regime, this growth created internal tension because of the unequal distribution of profits.

(Kinroku Molhachi), head of the Japanese delegation, said that he saw a favorable evolution of the Chilean economy and that this creates confidence. He praised the great effort made by our country.

U.S. Company Plans To Dump Toxic Waste

PY0110211590 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] The Party for Democracy [PPD] denounced today that the U.S. Pacific Chemical company and the two Chilean Refimet companies plan to install a toxic waste dump in Antofagasta.

The denunciation was made by Guido Girardi, head of the PPD Ecological and Environmental Committee. He showed a project signed by (James Wall), president of the U.S. company, which says that the ideal site for a waste dump is the Atacama desert.

[Begin Girardi recording] This shows that Chile may become a site for toxic waste unless we, as a society, take the necessary measures against it. Government officials should investigate this project and take the appropriate measures. [end recording]

Girardi said that the Chilean Refimet of Antofagasta and Refimet of Santiago companies plan to bring toxic waste into the country. He added that in addition to working with toxic waste, Refimet also works with recyclable waste. He said that this also is also a pollutant because the toxic material cannot be degraded and over the years becomes a threat to ecological stability.

Girardi described the bill submitted by Gutemberg Martinez [not further identified] to prohibit toxic material from entering the country as positive. He added that Chilean companies that release toxic waste should be forced to recycle it.

Colombia

Guerrillas To Be Pardoned by 'Special' Decree

PA0110194290 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1545 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] Bogota, 1 Oct (NOTIMEX)—The newspaper EL TIEMPO today reported that the Colombian Government will grant "special" pardons via decree to guerrillas who are currently demobilizing.

According to the "special" decree, guerrillas of the Popular Liberation Army (EPL), "Quintin Lame" Indian movement, and Workers Revolutionary Party (PRT) will be pardoned.

The pardon that would benefit guerrillas of these three insurgent groups stems from special powers that Colombian President Cesar Gaviria Trujillo has under a state of siege, which has been in effect in the country for the past 30 years.

A spokesman for Congress told NOTIMEX that the presidential decision to use his special powers to pardon or grant amnesty to rebels under the state of siege provisions of Article 121 is unprecendented in recent Colombian history.

He added that the president would invoke his special powers to expedite the peace process involving the EPL, Quintin Lame Indian movement, and PRT to ensure that their representatives would be able to become a part of the constituent assembly.

Elections to choose assembly representatives will be held on Sunday, 9 December, but the guerrillas will be able to participate if they can manage to incorporate themselves into civilian life by then.

The newspaper pointed out that there is another reason to grant pardons via decree: "The government already had a bad experience last year when it submitted the idea of a pardon for guerrillas of the 19 April Movement (M-19) for congress to consider."

Certain representatives tried to "attach" a general pardon for other kinds of crimes to the initiative. Also, pardons granted to former M-19 militants are still pending a decision.

At least 60 of the militants are about to lose their pardon or amnesty at special public order tribunals in Bogota because of their irregular status. As of today, Colombian

attorneys have successfully processed 280 M-19 cases, but 200 more are still pending.

Although the 10 camps that will house guerrillas of 18 EPL fronts, PRT, and Quintin Lame Indian movement have been defined, their commands have reaffirmed their decision to not surrender their weapons until July 1991, when constituent assembly members will conclude their sessions.

EPL Proposes 'National Pact' With All Sectors

PA0110184790 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1005 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Report by Edgar Hernandez]

[Text] Labores village, Colombia, 29 Sep (EFE)—The Marxist-Leninist Popular Liberation Army (EPL), which is participating in talks with the government, has proposed the formation of a national pact. This pact would include guerrillas, drug traffickers, and paramilitary forces and would work to attain the peace that the Colombians desire.

EPL leaders stated this to foreign journalists on 28 September in the camp located in the village of Labores, a mountainous area of Antioquia Department, 300 km northwest of Bogota, where the peace negotiations between the government and the guerrillas are being held.

EPL leader Bernardo Gutierrez said that the national dialogue cannot exclude any sector of society, especially when one sector has political, economic, and military power that could increase the social cost of violence.

Gutierrez said that the drug trafficking problem cannot be resolved with weapons, with the extradition of Colombians to the United States, or with the radicalization of positions. He said it could only be solved through negotiations to end drug trafficking.

Guerrilla commander Jairo Morales, a member of the EPL central command, said the drug trafficking problem has political, social, and economic elements. He said that it involves several sectors of Colombian society; therefore, its various aspects must be addressed.

Morales stressed that it is clear that the drug trafficking problem is not limited to the production, processing, transportation, and consumption of drugs. It also directly affects the community and the country.

Morales said that drug trafficking in Colombia is also linked to political power and that this is evident within government institutions in some regions. He added that it has an influential social base and an economic significance that no one can ignore.

According to Morales, limiting the drug trafficking problem to an extradition problem is akin to eliminating the possibility of dealing with it in a way that will benefit the nation and bring about dialogue and political solutions.

Commander Gutierrez said: We are against drug trafficking for moral reasons; we consider it harmful and detrimental in every aspect. However, this is not only a problem for Colombia but for the whole world. Nevertheless, we are the only ones paying for it.

He also criticized the fact that there is talk of the Colombian mafia but not of the U.S. and European mafia or of the corrupt international financial systems which have been involved in drug trafficking.

Regarding the participation of the paramilitary groups and the peasant self-defense groups, which have killed more than 1,000 leftists in the last few years, the EPL leaders feel that such groups should participate in a social pact because they would lose their reason for existence when the guerrillas disband.

The guerrilla leaders insisted that a differentiation must be made between the armed rightist and leftist organizations' political motives and the type of operations and actions they carry out.

They said that the leftist groups never attacked the civilian population with car bombs, massacres, or assassinations of high-ranking figures. Instead, they carried out a military strategy to solely attack the state forces.

Nevertheless, the EPL admitted that the paramilitary and self-defense groups emerged because of the errors of the guerrilla movement which, instead of establishing a cordial relationship with the big ranchers, preferred to kidnap and intimidate them.

It also criticized the alleged initiative of the Colombian Army to form, promote, and arm these groups, which later became public enemies of the entire society.

Gutierrez said: Talks must be held with them if we want a general solution to the causes of violence in the country and if we want the social pact we are proposing.

We request, demand, and believe it is necessary that talks be held with them in those terms, even though the government is not very interested in this, Gutierrez concluded.

Presidential Adviser Comments on Peace Talks

PA0110173990 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 23 Sep 90 pp 1A, 7A

[Interview with Presidential Adviser for Peace Jesus Bejarano by EL TIEMPO editor Maria del Rosario Arrazola; place and date not given]

[Text] [Arrazola] How is the peace process going with the Popular Liberation Army [EPL]?

[Bejarano] It is frail, as all peace processes are. There have been, there are, and there will be difficulties. What really counts is the willingness of the EPL and the government to solve the problems. I am optimistic about the future of that armed group and its reincorporation into civilian life. Despite some problems and the fact

that some sectors are skeptical about its willingness to negotiate, the EPL has really shown its desire to comply with the agreements we have signed.

[Arrazola] What do you mean when you say that there may be difficulties in the future?

[Bejarano] The success of the process will depend on our ability to create a peaceful climate in the areas where the EPL has been active. It will also depend on our ability to reach legal political agreements. To a large extent, it will depend on the maintenance of internal discipline within the EPL. Armed groups do not always have the necessary discipline required for people to believe in them.

[Arrazola] How will you handle the dissident group created by Francisco Caraballo?

[Bejarano] I am not worried about that. That is an internal problem within the EPL. According to the EPL, Caraballo's status is clear. He is not the general commander. This is not because someone says so, but because the EPL internal procedures say so. This factor can be disturbing, but it will not change the peace process in the near future.

[Arrazola] What specific administrative obstacles could hinder the process?

[Bejarano] Logistical aspects concerning the camps. There was a transfer of government and some budget problems, but this has been solved.

[Arrazola] Regarding the talks, what have the EPL and the government proposed?

[Bejarano] We are willing to hear their political proposals and discuss them. We are not judging the political proposals made by the EPL; we respect the ideology of all groups. What we cannot accept is the use of weapons to impose an ideology.

[Arrazola] What can be done to discourage the violence promoted by groups other than the EPL in Cordoba and Uraba?

[Bejarano] We must seek goodwill and commitments from groups that in some way have promoted violence in the past. It is possible to develop a peaceful climate and mechanisms through which civilian authorities and the promoters of violence themselves can contribute to peace.

[Arrazola] Have you met with the cattlemen or with the paramilitary groups that operate in Cordoba?

[Bejarano] We have not had time to hold a meeting with the cattlemen. However, we are trying to arrange that meeting because we believe it is necessary. We have spoken to civilian and military authorities in Cordoba to promote that meeting. In a public communique, they have expressed their willingness to help with the process. We believe they will play an important role. Arias Carrizosa [not further identified] has expressed his interest in contributing to finding a solution to the situation in Uraba.

[Arrazola] You are referring to the cattlemen. What about the paramilitary groups? What about Fidel Castano [well-known drug trafficker linked to paramilitary groups]?

[Bejarano] The president has clearly stated the guidelines. The government has adopted some unilateral measures to facilitate the handling of these matters. The recent decree offers an opportunity, but it is a unilateral measure. We cannot expect a political dialogue, because the actions taken were not within that context. The same applies to self-defense groups.

[Arrazola] The self-defense and paramilitary groups do not seem to have any intention of pledging themselves to the decree. What will happen?

[Bejarano] We cannot act based on a hypothesis. The fact is that there is a decree that provides opportunities. We must see what their expectations are and how they react. We must offer ways to facilitate the procedures for those who wish to accept the decree.

[Arrazola] How are the peace processes with the PRT [Revolutionary Workers Party] and the Quintin Lame going?

[Bejarano] Since these two groups are operating in very specific regions and not much media coverage is given to them, very little is known about that process. I am very optimistic about the agreement signed with the Quintin Lame guerrilla movement a week ago. The PRT is basically concentrated in Don Gabriel and Sucre. There have been no disturbances in those areas. On Thursday, 27 September, the government is going to meet with the PRT, the Quintin Lame movement, and the EPL in Labores to discuss the constituent assembly issue.

[Arrazola] What difficulties have you experienced in implementing the plan to reincorporate the M-19 [19 April Movement] into Colombian society?

[Bejarano] We must admit that we did not prepare ourselves adequately for the magnitude of that problem. We had to face budget and admistrative problems that were not dealt with on time. To a large extent, this is not only the government's fault. For example, the M-19 did not conduct surveys to help us identify the various needs ahead of time. That problem is currently being solved. We have talked to the pertinent government and nongovernment organizations to guarantee a certain degree of progress within three or four months.

[Arrazola] With which organizations have you gotten in touch?

[Bejarano] The Popayan municipal council has established a tax exemption regulation for all those companies that hire M-19 members. The Huila municipal government has done the same thing. We are negotiating

settlement projects with Incora [Colombian Institute of Agrarian Reform] for those who wish to join the agrarian reform program. We have devised a trust mechanism to grant loans to the small businesses, and we have also identified needs for education loans. I am sure that we will have most of this problem solved within three or four months.

[Arrazola] Certain reports state that some M-19 militants have become common criminals and others have joined the guerrilla movement? Is that true or not?

[Bejarano] I do not have much information on that. That is probably happening in some cases. We have to understand the situation of a person who has spent most of his life in the mountains and is having difficulties adjusting to a new situation.

[Arrazola] Will there be a dialogue with FARC [Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia] and the ELN [Army of National Liberation]?

[Bejarano] It depends on the situation. The government hopes to, intends to, and is willing to promote this dialogue. It welcomes a dialogue provided that FARC and the ELN behave in a manner that will promote trust and credibility among the people.

[Arrazola] How will the guerrilla movements participate in the constituent assembly? How many seats will they have? What are the requirements for participation?

[Bejarano] One thing is to participate as a delegate using the two seats assigned by decree to the demobilized guerrilla movements and to those groups participating in a dialogue process with the government; additional seats can also be created. In other words, these groups would participate in the body of the constituent assembly. However, another thing is to participate in the discussions of the assembly's agenda. This participation is limited to the committees, subcommittees, and working groups. We hope that by the time the constituent assembly is convoked, we will have progressed enough in the peace process so that we can assess the situation and grant seats to the guerrilla delegates. But other avenues will be open as well.

[Arrazola] What will happen if there is not a complete demobilization?

[Bejarano] It will be enough to have made significant progress for the guerrilla groups to participate in the committees and subcommittees.

[Arrazola] Why does the government refuse to attribute a political image to the self-defense groups when in many documents they have insisted that they are a political movement?

[Bejarano] Let us differentiate between paramilitary and self-defense groups. There is no clear line between one and the other, but there are extremes. There are self-defense groups that were protected by legal norms at a certain time but that became illegal organizations upon the abrogation of a decree. There are paramilitary groups that have murdered people and carried out massacres. Neither of these cases and actions have a political content.

[Arrazola] But the guerrilla movements have also committed crimes.

[Bejarano] But they apparently carry out their actions on behalf of a political plan. Their actions obviously include many criminal activities. According to Colombian law and any other law, rebellion and sedition are political crimes.

[Arrazola] What does the government think about the most recent agreements signed by the Cordoba Department cattlemen, the self-defense groups of Middle Magdalena, and the EPL?

[Bejarano] They are positive agreements that contribute to peace in the country. However, the government can neither mediate in nor be a guarantor of those agreements. The government sees those agreements as a positive step toward peace.

Summary of Battle Reports for 17-25 Sep

PA3009150690

[Editorial Report] Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish on 18 September, pages 1A and 8A, carries a 500-word report on guerrilla attacks. On 17 September, in Simiti, south of Bolivar, six policemen were killed in an attack against a police patrol. In Cimitarra, Santander Department, five soldiers were kidnapped by ELN (Army of National Liberation) guerrillas, who also wounded six civilians. On that same day a FARC (Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia) unit attacked an anti-drug patrol in Pueblo Nuevo de Vista Hermosa, killing two policemen and wounding three others.

Also on that same day the ELN blew up two sections of the Cano Limon-Covenas oil pipeline in Hato Corozal, Santander Department.

The 19 September issue of EL TIEMPO carries a 300-word report stating that one soldier was killed and a corporal was wounded when a Garcia Rovira Battalion patrol was ambushed by guerrillas in Silos, in North Santander, on 18 September.

The 20 September issue of EL TIEMPO in a 100-word report states that five guerrillas belonging to the Camilist Union of the ELN were killed on 18 September in a clash with troops in Chameza, Casanare Department.

Madrid EFE in Spanish at 0139 GMT on 20 September carries a 200-word report on two guerrilla ambushes. In the first, two NCO's and five soldiers were killed, and one soldier was wounded on 20 September in Yondo, in the Middle Magdalena area. In the second ambush, on the highway between Yacopi and La Palma, in Cundinamarca Department, two policemen were killed and three were wounded when a mine was set off as their

truck passed. The guerrillas then machine-gunned the patrol. On 19 September, six soldiers were killed in an ELN ambush, in the Bajo Simacota area in Santander

Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish at 1200 GMT on 25 September carries a 2-minute report on several ELN and FARC attacks in North Santander, Cesar, and Guaviare. Several ELN guerrillas wearing traffic police uniforms kidnapped a former Cucuta mayor in Villa del Rosario in North Santander. A FARC column ambushed a military patrol, killing one officer and one soldier and wounding two soldiers. Several FARC members murdered a lawyer in El Cesar.

In Medellin it was reported that the army and FARC guerrillas are clashing in the Yondo area. The army operation had begun after a guerrilla column ambushed an army patrol.

Peru

Police, Soldiers Clash With Terrorists

PY2909033990 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 1800 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] This morning police delivered a hard blow to subversion when the forces of order killed two terrorists after chasing them through three districts of Lima. Here is the detailed report:

Two alleged terrorists died in a clash with the police this morning. In an unprecedented act, the terrorists, who still have not been identified, shot each other rather than be arrested by the police. This has never occurred since subversive elements began acting in the country 10 years ago.

A terrorist, who was driving a car identified by a police patrol, tried to escape. The patrol chased the vehicle through the streets of three districts. After the car hit an earthen mound, the driver managed to escape. Bullets fired by the terrorists shattered the windshields of the patrol cars. Inside the car, police found packages of dynamite sticks apparently similar to those used by other terrorists in a dynamite attack on the Electrolima [Lima Electric Power Enterprise], district offices in San Juan de Miraflores, Comas, and Pueblo Libre, the source reported.

The shoot-out and subsequent deaths of the two unidentified youths, as well as the dynamite attacks, which allegedly had been planned by the Maoist Shining Path, took place at about 0700 this morning.

After several weeks of relative calm, the Shining Path conducted other attacks in various parts of the country. Defense Minister General Jorge Torres Aciego therefore believes that the group's structure has hardly been affected.

While these attacks were taking place in Surco and in Lima, three Electrolima offices in separate Lima districts were hit by terrorist groups. The Comas office at km 11 of the Tupac Amaru Avenue was seriously damaged. This is the fifth time this office has been attacked by terrorists. In San Juan de Miraflores, another office was attacked. Although the office was not badly damaged, many citizens had to stand in line, anxiously waiting to pay their light bills for the month of September.

A report by ham radio operators confirmed to the "60 Minutes" newscast that a General Police commander identified as Fuentes Llanos and three soldiers were killed in Puno.

In an attack early this morning on the Nunoa Police Garrison at Santa Rosa District in Juliaca Province, the terrorists wounded two other soldiers.

Reportedly a patrol made up of policemen and Army soldiers left for the Ayamiri region at 0800 this morning. The patrol, which consists of 18 policemen and soldiers, is still countering the attack of terrorist snipers who are hiding on (Huandoique) Hill, the ham radio report added until the transmission was suddenly interrupted.

Terrorist Escalation Causes 150 Deaths

PY0110172390 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0134 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Lima, 29 Sep (EFE)—A new terrorist escalation in Peru this week resulted in approximately 150 deaths and again shook a country which has already endured 10 years of political violence and some 20,000 victims. The fiercest clashes between the military and terrorists took place in the northern Peruvian jungle where, according to press reports citing military sources, some 120 people, including terrorists and civilians, have died.

The military activity has been going on for an entire week since the terrorists attacked Merced de Locro on 24 September in the jungle area of northern Huanuco Department. According to today's LA REPUBLICA, some 2,000 soldiers and police officers are pursuing members of the Maoist Shining Path group in that area.

In Puno Department, on the Bolivian border, a patrol of 18 police officers was attacked on 28 September by some 60 terrorists who, in several hours of combat, killed Colonel Marco Puente Llanos and three noncommissioned officers.

In Junin, in the central Peruvian mountain range, a Shining Path offensive has resulted in 10 dead over the past 48 hours, including the coordinator of the governing Change 90 party, Carlos Vilcahuaman, who was murdered at his home in Pucara, 10 km from Huancayo, capital of Junin. Nevertheless, the military command lifted the curfew that had been implemented more than a month ago.

On 28 September two members of the Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement (MRTA) died in Lima in a

shoot-out with police after hurling bombs at three buildings belonging to the state-owned Electrolima [Lima Electric Power Enterprise], causing serious material damage but no casualties.

Another eight people died in southern Ayacucho Department between Tuesday and Friday as a result of Shining Path attacks. The victims were a teacher and seven peasants, members of the so-called "peasant defense patrols." These patrols, which fight against the Shining Path, are trained by the military but are poorly armed.

On 26 September three soldiers died and some 12 were wounded in a Shining Path ambush in a desolate area 220 km northeast of Lima. On the same day members of the Shining Path murdered Judge Dario Quispylayas Llauri in Pazos, 560 km southeast of Lima.

Monsignor Ricardo Durand Flores, president of the Peruvian Episcopal Conference, has offered the Catholic Church's mediation in reaching a peaceful agreement with the MRTA. Maximo San Roman, first vice president of the Republic and president of the Senate, has also offered to mediate in a possible dialogue with the MRTA, which abducted Change 90 Deputy Gerardo Lopez Quiroz on 23 September.

In communiques sent to various media sources, the MRTA has stated that they have not kidnapped Lopez Quiroz but rather "invited him to chat" about the administration of Peruvian President Alberto Fujimori.

The MRTA is seemingly planning to start a dialogue that might lead to a pacification, although the Guevarist movement has not stated its position clearly and continues to perpetrate acts of violence.

Gerardo Lopez' abduction is somewhat unclear; before he joined the Change 90 party, he belonged to a political party that was considered to be the MRTA's armed branch.

Peruvian media coverage has been focused on the terrorist actions instead of Peru's reinstatement into the international economic system, which is being negotiated by Juan Carlos Hurtado Miller, prime minister and economy minister, with the IMF, the World Bank, and the IDB [Inter-American Development Bank].

Kidnapped Change 90 Deputy Lopez Released

PY0110171690 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 1100 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] Change 90 Deputy Gerardo Lopez Quiroz has been released safe and sound. He reported that the Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement, MRTA, does not want to hold talks with the government. Here is a report:

[Begin recording] [Reporter] It is 1020. Amid pushing and shoving between reporters and policemen, the mother of Deputy Gerardo Lopez, who was kidnapped by the MRTA and released a few minutes after 2000 tonight, arrives at the studio of a national television station where the Change 90 deputy is appearing. There is confusion here as the policemen try to enforce the strict security that circumstances require and trying to keep reporters out.

[Reporter] When were you released? Where were you set free?

[Lopez] I was set free at the Plaza de Armas in Barranco, right?

[Reporter] Was it in Barranco?

[Lopez] Yes, it was there.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]?

[Lopez] I was received by journalist Guido Lombardi before 2000. The subversives delivered me to Channel 5, to Guido Lombardi.

[Reporter] What was your experience with them, Deputy?

[Lopez] Well, it was an experience that I never imagined I would live through, frankly. It was not in the script. Beyond the personal experience, though, I would like for this, if possible, to open a possibility for national pacification. I believe...

[Reporter, interrupting] Is there a proposal of this nature?

[Lopez] I believe that there is a possibility for Peruvian society and the Peruvian State to open a road here. The subversives do not refuse to talk; rather, they are willing to hold talks, provided the talks are about important national issues. Problems such...

[Reporter, interrupting] Will you be a spokesman for the MRTA?

[Lopez] Pardon?

[Reporter] Will you be a spokesman for the MRTA?

[Lopez] I do not understand your question.

[Reporter] In view of what happened, will you be a spokesman for the MRTA?

[Lopez] No. I believe your question is loaded. I am not in the MRTA.

[Reporter] No, but will you be a liaison, a channel of communications, a liaison between the MRTA and the government?

[Lopez] Now I understand your question. I am not the most qualified to represent the government. I will convey to President Fujimori the positions the MRTA presented to me.

[Reporter] What are the points you discussed with the subversives?

[Lopez] Well, the first topic was dialogue and national pacification. They said they had great expectations for the Change 90 government, my government, but the expectations withered after the presidential speech and fell apart after the economic measures announced on 8 August. They added that in the country's current situation, they are not inclined to talk—not now. They contend that to talk now would be equal to supporting the policies of the Change 90 government, my government. However, they do not refuse to hold talks provided the talks are conducted with people who are government representatives and who have credibility as serious men.

[Reporter] Did they mention names?

[Lopez] Well, Vice President Carlos Garcia y Garcia is one who has credibility because they say he is one they can talk with; of course, noting that Dr. Carlos Garcia y Garcia has offered his good offices.

[Reporter] Did you have a chance to talk with Victor Polay Campos?

[Lopez] I could not guarantee that. I talked with subversives who wore hoods all the time. On one occasion I talked with three subversives at the same time, on another occasion with two, on another with one, and I never saw their faces, right?

[Reporter] Could you affirm that he is in Peru?

[Lopez] I believe he is because I have some documents to deliver to President Fujimori that have a signature reading Victor Polay Campos. If this signature is authentic, he should be in Peru, right?

[Reporter] A plan for talks without laying down arms?

[Lopez] Yes. In fact, I asked them if talks implies laying down arms, if a Colombia-style solution would be acceptable. As we know, the M-19 in Colombia turned in their weapons after 40 years. They told me that talks imply reaching an agreement on some specific points and an eventual truce for a definite period. As for surrendering their arms, that would amount to definite pacification, a point they do not want to debate just now, although I'm not denying that pacification is possible in the medium term.

[Reporter] Has a date (?been set) to talk with the government?

[Lopez] No dates have been set. They said they would be watching developments in the country and the course the country takes. Depending on this, they will certainly open the channels that they deem best.

[Reporter] What was the price or what were the conditions for your release?

[Lopez] There were no conditions as such. I was taken against my will, right? I was taken at gunpoint from my residence. I believe the allegation that it was a self-kidnapping or that I was taken with my consent is a new chapter to be added to the book "The Universal History of Infamy" written by Jose Luis Borges.

[Reporter] Have they asked you to perform some assignment or task?

[Lopez] No, I do not have any task to perform for the MRTA, absolutely none. I do not have any commitment with them. The subversives cannot assign me any task whatsoever.

[Reporter] They asked nothing of you?

[Lopez] No. The only specific commitment was to make their viewpoints public through the press. I think that beyond this commitment, if we want to keep open the possibility of a national dialogue that leads to a truce, we should be interested in knowing about their proposals.

[Reporter] What are they proposing?

[Lopez] Frankly, I have not read them. [Lopez picks up some papers].

[Reporter] But, when you talked with them?

[Lopez] Yes, I know what we talked about.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] the rebels against Fujishock. What is (?their) opinion in this regard?

[Lopez] Well, I have not read that, but we probably talked about it. They contend that the economic program being implemented is different from the program offered in the electoral campaign, and that it is detrimental to the interests of the people. Therefore, they cannot hold talks with the government. This is the way they put forth their position against the government, my government, although not ruling out the possibility of talks. [end recording]

Guerrillas Suffer Defeats; 85 Killed 24 Sep

PY0110232490 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 1800 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] The Army continues to search for groups of Shining Path members who attempted to isolate Tingo Maria, sowing death and destruction in the upper Huallaga region.

In the past few weeks the Army has dealt hard blows to subversives. The operations permitted the retaking of strategic locations where terrorists had attempted to establish rural bases. Thus far this year, the military operations have cleared, among others, areas like the Monzon valley, Tingo Maria, Naranjillo, Aucaico, (Ramal de Apusana), and Madre Mia. In some of these areas, subversives unleashed a wave of selected murders that frightened the people and the authorites. The presence of the Army, however, has brought tranquillity in the middle of the expectations awakened by the upcoming supplemental municipal elections.

In one of the hardest blows dealt to subversives, the Army killed 85 terrorists 24 September in the locality of Merced de Lacro in Leoncio Prado Province.

Operations were intensified last week, especially in Huallaga, Tingo Maria, Huanuco, Tocache, and Tarapoto.

In the meantime, many families have returned to their ranches, farms, and plantations of cacao and other crops. The people are now preparing to repair the bridges and highways damaged by subversives. The people have asked that the success achieved by the Armed forces be coupled with a socioeconomic development plan for the region.

The Shining Path, which has operated in the area since 1984, has suffered serious defeats. Major terrorist bases were destroyed, leadership structures were dismantled, and top members were arrested.

Subversive Commando Kills Ingenio Mayor's Son

PY0110222290 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 1800 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] Last night in Ica, in the Los Libertadores-Huari region, a six-man subversive commando unsuccessfully tried to kill Mario Moron, mayor of Ingenio district. Instead, the commando wounded the mayor's wife and killed his son. Moron was not at home, but he was in the city of Ica.

The commando violently burst into Moron's house and dragged the victims out of their beds to the living room, where they severely beat the woman in an attempt to make her tell where her husbad was.

In the face of the situation, the woman's son Juan Carlos intervened but without hesitation the terrorists fired machine-gun blasts at the defenseless boy.

Business Leader Discusses Economic Situation

PY2809183990 Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 24 Sep 90 p 6

[Interview with Engineer Jorge Comet, president of the National Confederation of Private Business Institutions, Confiep, by Alberto Aquino Collantes; place and date not given]

[Excerpt] [Aquino] The government has finally released the new customhouse duties, which are, on the whole, aimed at concealing [disimular] protectionism to make business more competitive. What do you think about them?

[Camet] The 31 organizations that make up Confiep have always advocated an effective reform of customhouse duties like the one being implemented now to make business more efficient through greater competition. Business cannot expect the state to manage public companies and the economy in general more efficiently, if we ourselves are not efficient.

[Aquino] Does this mean that all productive sectors participated in preparation of the new customhouse duties?

[Camet] All business organizations were consulted on specific aspects of the new duties relating to their activities, and several groups went to the BCR [Central Reserve Bank] to discuss and explain their points of view.

[Aquino] Therefore, the established percentages of 15-percent minimum and 50-percent maximum are the most suitable?

[Camet] That is right. There is an agreement in the business sector on the minimum and maximum limits of customhouse duties. There are some disagreements on the duties in between the minimum and maximum percentages that we hope will be readjusted along the way.

[Aquino] How do you evaluate the behavior of the economy 45 days after stabilization measures were implemented?

[Camet] As a whole, the business sector believes the economy is beginning to stabilize as a result of the seriousness of the objectives and the firmness in implementing the measures and in administration of the treasury, which is creating credibility and confidence. The idea of more technology and less politics seems to work. That does not mean corrective measures will not be made along the way. One of the measures we value is the return to the BCR of a large part of the money printed at the beginning of the previous administration to meet emergency obligations. Also, the reduction of electricity bills and some fuel prices are good signs.

[Aquino] What is your opinion of the exchange rate? Some people believe it is below its real value, thus discouraging exports.

[Camet] It is impossible to advance a realistic opinion on the exchange rate because some prices are still unstable. I believe the increase in the dollar rate to reach its real value is slow and harmful for exports. The market is the one that should regulate the foreign exchange rate with the intervention of the BCR, according to its means. I reiterate that the market is the best source of resources. It should be pointed out, however, that the economy is affected not only by the dollar rate, but by other factors as well, such as state reform and tax reform, which is necessary to start fighting tax evasion.

[Aquino] If state reform implies a change in the structure of the state, do you believe this change goes beyond the medium-range?

[Camet] Action can be started with concrete measures for concrete problems; for example, through the complete reorganization of port services by eliminating a large part of the costs such as bureaucracy. In Peru the cost of shipping one ton of merchandise cost $30, while it only costs $6 in Chile. In Chile the government spent $50 million to encourage retirement and soon afterwards it was able to combine efficiency with lower costs in its ports.

[Aquino] A substantial reduction in bank interest rates has been observed in the past few days. What can you say about this?

[Camet] We think this is an excellent measure. The interbanking competition will benefit borrowers in the same way tariff reforms will benefit the industrial sector. We should not forget that as inflation and interests decrease, the economy will reactivate. The interest reduction will lead to a resumption in sales on the installment plan. This will activate production because demand will increase. If a bank cannot compete then it will have to go bankrupt. [passage omitted]

Average Monthly Inflation Rate 13.8 Percent

PY0210015890 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 1800 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Summary] The national statistics institute has reported that prices in the last week of September grew by 4.8 percent with respect to prices in the last week of August. The average monthly inflation rate reached 13.8 percent.

* Small Businesses Near 'Collapse'

90SM0259B Lima CARETAS in Spanish 27 Aug 90 pp 17-18

[Text] The recession generated by the tremendous impact caused by the major adjustment of 8 August in the production costs of business firms has left some knocked out, others somewhat battered, but the smallest ones, in particular, are at the brink of total collapse.

The principal factors destabilizing the latter have been the 400 percent increase in labor costs (minimum wage at four to 16 million intis), the rise in component prices in almost the same proportion, and the brutal shrinkage in demand, totaling over 60 percent.

Other factors have also been the 35-fold rise in electricity rates (25 kw), and the 30-fold increase in those for diesel or residual oil.

The problem is serious because small industries give employment to an average of five to nine workers each, and there is an approximate total of 11,000 businesses.

The adjustment has decapitalized small business owners, who have already announced their economic funerals en masse, if the government fails to provide them with assistance over the short term.

A small footwear business owner declared: "This government took over the country's administration proclaiming and assuming representation for small and informal businessmen. Now is time for them to prove this with action."

The first vice president, Maximo San Roman, former leader of the National Federation of Small Industrialists (FENAPI), has stated that credit amounting to $6 million will soon be arriving in the country, and will immediately be channeled into recovery loans for small and informal businesses.

Ranking first among the major industrial sectors that have been hardest hit by the recessive blow are glass manufacturers, whose main production costs lie in electric power and fuel to activate their furnaces.

The tragic example of the PEPESA firm reflects the situation in which their counterparts in the industry find themselves. Just 5 days after the major adjustment, its board members had to send its 220 workers on forced furloughs.

Other glass companies which have been shut down besides PEPESA are Industrial Glass, Inc., Vinoperu, and Vicrisa, as well as virtually all the small ones engaged in the same activity.

Also closing this week are P.J. Hartinger, a leader in the household equipment market, and Peruvian Crystal, Inc., a firm processing high quality crystal and glass.

Other major sectors are at a semi-standstill: producers of clothing, plastics, metal machinery, textiles, various food products, basic chemical industrial goods, alcoholic beverages, beer, footwear, carbonated beverages, and paper.

Nevertheless, the headache for consolidated business owners is not so much the recessive phenomenon per se, but rather the lack of liquidity.

As a high-ranking official from a committee of the National Association of Industries admitted, businesses were prepared to confront a severe economic adjustment program with all its recessive implications.

The problem is that the shield they had prepared to receive the blows was made of green U.S. banknotes. And now these have dropped almost as far as intis.

The lack of currency in the financial system and the urgent need for money to pay the new rates for light, salaries, and emergency taxes have forced them in many instances to exchange those dollars at prices below what they paid for the currency.

The low dollar also prevents business owners from taking their production abroad. Exporting is not good business.

Nevertheless, the present recession is not yet fatal insofar as the capacity of the formal industry is concerned. The latter has considerable stocks and dollars with which to defend itself, and can harbor hopes. Those taking the rap are the small ones (as usual) and the weak.

Furthermore, this is not the first streak of recession: Until last July only 54.2 percent of the total industrial capacity was operating, as a result of the September 1988 package. In other words, it seems to be accustomed to the setbacks. It is not yet time for an industrial catastrophe.

* Reaction to Hurtado Speech Assessed

90SM0259A Lima CARETAS in Spanish 3 Sep 90 pp 16-19, 83

[Text] At 1130 hours on Monday, 27 August, when the prime minister began his address to Congress, the rumor among congressmen and reporters was that Juan Carlos

Hurtado Miller was planning to announce a reduction in the price of gasoline and other fuels. However, he was going to keep the news until after all the congressional speeches, so as to present it as a finishing touch: in other words, as a sign of the government's permeability to criticism expected from the representative body.

In a talk with other congressmen from the Liberty Movement and SODE [Solidarity and Democracy] Manuel Moreyra went further. He claimed that, as some of Hurtado's advisers had notified him, the reductions would be for oil and other fuels with intensive industrial use which seemed politically expedient to him. However, he did not understand the intention of waiting until the end, because if the announcement were made at the outset, it would have stolen the opposition's thunder.

The prime minister began his remarks after the necessary coordination with the Senate president, Maximo San Roman. Also visiting the latter's office were Ministers Fernando Sanchez Albavera, Carlos Amat y Leon, Carlos Torres y Torres Lara, and Luis Marchand.

The one with whom there was obviously no coordination was President Alberto Fujimori who, the following day, apparently thrilled by the shower of bougainvillaea petals that he had received in Tacna during his ride along Lima Street, announced a price cut for diesel and kerosene, and the tax on electricity consumption. This was endorsed in Lima by Hurtado, who tried not to bat an eye, as though it had been something previously agreed upon.

It was then that Mercedes Cabanillas jumped like a spring, citing the lack of conscience to which they were succumbing, with the occurrence of the same thing for which the the previous government had been criticized. She therefore detracted value from dialogue with a prime minister who, she claimed, was not ultimately the one making the decisions.

It so happens that, during previous informal contacts, the Apristas had suggested the need for the government to cut prices of kerosene and gasoline as a means of arriving at a pluralistic understanding in which APRA [American Popular Revolutionary Alliance] was willing to cooperate. Hurtado's advisers denied the possibility, alleging the need for preserving the program's credibility.

Although not all the representatives who followed, discussing this point, acted in such a categorical manner as Cabanillas, in the end the action had favorable repercussions for the minister.

In fact, during his presentation, Hurtado had reiterated his harsh criticisms of the previous government which, though warranted, were not fitting at a time when he had to approve the review of the Congress, despite the fact that presentation of the government program does not call for a vote. Since the breakup of FREDEMO [Democratic Front], APRA is the largest congressional group (16 senators and 53 deputies, representing 28.75 percent of the 240 members of Congress). To be added to them are several independent and Change 90 deputies: something potentially dangerous for the government if leftwing groups and some hot-heads from the other groups also join. For the time being, they have begun talking about refusing the government the requested legislative powers.

Nevertheless, when Fujimori was in Tacna, he not only announced the aforementioned price cuts but also reiterated his criticism, not only of APRA, but of the Congress as a whole.

Everyone felt affected, and some thought that they detected Fujimori's imprint in the harsh terms used by Hurtado in his speech ("there will be no clean slate," or the mention of "thieves who must be called thieves"). Just as, in Tacna, he had criticized sterile parliamentarianism and talked about consulting the people in this regard.

There was an ebbing movement in the Congress, where many congressmen want to remain over the next five years. To upset the stability of the Hurtado cabinet which, though it could not be censured on this occasion, might be made to fall a week later, could precipitate events in an unpredictable manner.

There was all manner of gossip in the halls of Congress. For example, it was claimed that, if the Hurtado cabinet should fall, the new prime minister would be Augusto Blacker Miller (his cousin, ex-president of the Bank of the Nation and current director of the La Moneda Consortium). It was added that Hurtado would then move to the BCR [Central Reserve Bank] presidency: a position that had not yet been exactly filled in the event of the fall of the present government's first cabinet. In short, the situation had reached the point where probes had even begun to be made regarding the "new" cabinet. FIM's [Independent Moralization Front] Deputy Dennis Falvey had been asked whether he would be willing to go to the Ministry of Industry; to which the one queried responded that he still had some common sense left (?).

Meanwhile, among the congressmen a greater sense of solidarity was obviously appearing with the prime minister and his ministers, who withstood 126 speeches (most of them dull and repetitious) throughout the four day duration of the marathon, which must have been rather displeasing to the president.

There were speeches of every stripe and quality against Fujimori: from the brilliant ones (as they were described by the majority) by Roberto Ramirez del Villar and Javier Valle Riestra, defending congressional privileges presumably damaged by the president, to Jose Barba Caballero's request for declaring him politically unchargeable, and giving him a reasonable amount of time to acquire maturity as president before taking him seriously.

Rudeness aside, the fact is that the marathon proved fruitful: It allowed for an approach to what the Congress will be like during this five year period, in which AP [Popular Action], PPC [Popular Christian Party], the

Liberty Movement, and even SODE appear willing to lend their support to a government such as that of Hurtado.

All of them underscored their feelings for undertaking a path that would be difficult, but one which they consider suitable for surmounting the chaotic situation that has been inherited.

If Change 90 manages to suppress its centrifugal tendencies, it might begin to behave like a a government party, as the small Socialist Left already has. Even APRA, which initiated applause for Hurtado when during his speech summary he offered the olive branch to its representatives thus rejecting the notion of his being possibly considered anti-Aprista, could also provide opportunities for an understanding.

All this is positive if one considers the fact that CPA [Aprista Parliamentary Bloc] had prepared a motion for censure that was later forgotten (since, obviously, no one in IU [United Left] paid any heed to Hugo Blanco's rash attempts to cause a commotion, and Fernando Olivero's strident shouts only attracted the photographers' attention).

So, the political parties are well disposed toward preventing democracy, one of the mainstays of which is Congress, from being put in jeopardy.

The notion prevailing in the spectrum that could be defined as right of center is that, though the Hurtado cabinet is a result of improvisation by a person governing who was not prepared for this task, nonetheless it is quite a successful cabinet. If Fujimori had to set up a new one, even with Blacker as prime minister, it would necessarily be more improvised than the present one, certainly less brilliant, and definitely less credible in its program.

The Hurtado cabinet's presentation was certainly not perfect. There was a lack of coordination, with the complete absence of references to tourism in the 92 pages heroically read by Hurtado, and stoically heard by the representative body on Monday. The vacuum was emphasized by the Aprista ex-vice minister of tourism, Augusto Lanatta, and economist Falvy, who noted that tourism does not represent merely foreign currency, which the state has no way of attracting, but also employment of all types, something vital at present.

Among the speeches retrievable from the exhausting workdays was the very heartfelt and almost colloquial one delivered by Julian Bustamante, of Change 90, possibly the revelation of the new Congress. Other notable ones were those by Manuel Moreyra, Francisco Guerra, Javier Diez Canseco, Manuel Ulloa, Alberto Borea, and Luis Alberto Sanchez. There are surely unfair omissions, but it is not the purpose of this article to give an exhaustive review of what occurred during over 40 hours of sessions.

Included among the important announcements made by Hurtado in his final address is the one relating to BCR which, as of Thursday, had accumulated reserves totaling $187 million. It was expecting to reach a level during the next few weeks that would enable it to participate directly in the market.

He predicted reductions in interest rates, remarking that it was inconceivable to reconcile zero inflation with 50 percent interest.

He noted that it was expected to collect a total equivalent to $224 million by year's end, in the form of tax revenues. This is already enabling the Treasury to pay the debt for the major project (devised to pay the bonus to state agencies), amounting to $13.5 billion from the BCR, $5.5 billion of which has already been paid off.

The chairmanship of Maximo San Roman and Enrique Bernales was suited to the circumstances, and the board of spokesmen served its purpose by reducing the number of speakers during the final workday. Then, all the parties reduced the number of their speakers, so that everything would be completed by Thursday.

During the course of the debates there were two minor injuries: Percy Vargas, of the Social Emergency Program, and Torres y Torres Lara, the jawbreaking labor minister.

Venezuela

Perez Urges Meeting of Oil Producers, Consumers

PA0110232190 Paris AFP in Spanish 2053 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] New York (United Nations) 1 Oct (AFP)—Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez today proposed an urgent meeting of crude oil producers and consumers, under the aegis of the United Nations, to once and for all face "the political reality of oil."

Addressing the 45th UN General Assembly, Perez stressed that the Persian Gulf crisis affects the entire world, "and especially countries like Venezuela, who are oil exporters and members of OPEC."

The president of Venezuela, the largest oil exporter in Latin America, warned that "neither OPEC nor the industrialized countries can allow abrupt increases in the price of oil, nor can we allow equally abrupt drops in price once the Persian Gulf crisis is settled."

The price of crude oil has doubled on international markets since the invasion of Kuwait by Iraqi President Saddam Husayn's army on 3 August.

Perez stressed that Venezuela has the largest oil reserves and that its exploitation guarantees fulfilling the world's energy needs, but that it would require adequate prices.

Perez said, "I am proposing an urgent meeting of oil producers and consumers, under the aegis of the United Nations. This meeting will allow us, once and for all, to face the political reality of oil. Our first step should be a meeting between OPEC and the International Energy Agency."

At the same time, Perez said that Venezuela, together with fellow members of OPEC and other oil exporters,

like Mexico, is willing to continue to help Third World oil importers—as it does under the San Jose Agreement with Central American and Caribbean countries—but that the more powerful countries should cooperate in a permanent and consistent manner.

In another important point in his speech, Perez proposed that UN member countries should agree on "a 10 percent reduction in military budgets, which would be used to finance a UN fund for social development."

President Perez said that this fund should be "used to decisively face the misery that crushes and annihilates hundreds of millions of children throughout the world." Perez participated in the world meeting on children held on 30 September at UN headquarters.

President Perez once again condemned the invasion of Kuwait. He also exhorted the Salvadoran Government and guerrillas to "overcome obstacles to the peace agreement, and to bring peace and welfare to a country crucified by a fratricidal struggle for more than 10 years."

He then asked for international solidarity so that Haiti can hold elections in December. In the next few days, the General Assembly will discuss the Haitian elections.

Oil Prices Stabilizing; Haiti Signs Agreement

PA2909180890 Caracas Venezolana de Television Canal 8 in Spanish 0004 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] The price of a barrel of Venezuelan oil has tended to stabilize. According to Energy and Mines Minister Celestino Armas, its price is about $28 per barrel. He added that this trend is due to the reaction of the international market following the announcement by U.S. President George Bush that his country would open its strategic reserves.

According to the energy and mines minister, this is a decision to be praised because it responds to an OPEC request. The industrialized countries have been asked to support the oil producing nations and sell part of their inventories and strategic reserves to guarantee more reasonable prices, such as those that were announced at the OPEC conference, between $21 and $25 per barrel, and not the current price of about $40.

In other issues announced by the energy and mines minister, it was also learned that Venezuela and Haiti have signed a bilateral agreement which allows that country favorable financing under conditions similar to those granted to the countries that signed the San Jose Pact. This agreement was for 6,500 barrels per day.

New Director Appointed for Intelligence Unit

PA2909223690 Caracas Venezolana de Television Canal 8 in Spanish 0023 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] General Jiminez Ganza has been appointed the new director of the Directorate of Intelligence and Prevention Services, replacing criminologist Pedro Arturo Torres Agudo.

Jimenez Ganza had been working as a security adviser in President Carlos Andres Perez' government and also headed the intelligence and prevention services several years ago.

* Poll Ranks Governors, Mayors

90SM0254A Caracas EL DIARIO DE CARACAS in Spanish 8 Aug 90 p 28

[Report by Antonio Fernandez]

[Excerpts] As rated by the public in general, the work accomplished by mayors and governors since those regional executives assumed their offices in January leaves much to be desired. This conclusion is drawn from an opinion poll taken by the Mercanalisis firm among 1,000 persons: male and female, between the ages of 18 and 70, of all socioeconomic levels, in 11 of the country's leading cities, between 21 June and 7 July of this year.

The opinion poll used probability sampling during the period of its execution in Caracas, Maracaibo, Barquisimeto, Valencia, Maracay, Cumana, Puerto La Cruz, Ciudad Guayana, Merida, San Cristobal, and Valera. [passage omitted]

The study aimed at the governors' work showed a decline, for all cities comprising the sample, in the rating that the public gives of the regional government since January. In cities where the initial expectations were highest, the margin separating those who are dissatisfied from those considering their work as being positive is wider. This holds true of Maracay, Maracaibo, and Ciudad Guayana.

For the month of July the governor of Sucre has the lowest percentage in the ratings; and the same thing occurred from the outset in Merida, Trujillo, and the Federal District.

The best ratings associated with the governor's endeavor were given in San Cristobal (Tachira), Maracay (Aragua), Maracaibo (Zulia), and Ciudad Guayana (Bolivar).

Just as in the case of the governors, the evaluation made by the public of the mayors' work in several leading cities has declined from the time of expectations created in January until these more recent ratings. The cities where the evaluation of good work has fallen most are Merida, Maracay, and Barquisimeto.

The mayors with the most outstanding ratings, albeit showing a sharp decline are: those of Maracaibo, with 47 percent; Ciudad Guayana, with 32 percent; and Puerto La Cruz, with 30 percent. Those receiving more negative ratings are the mayors of Cumana, with 15 percent, and Merida, with 13 percent. [passage omitted]